



**red
eye**

Tuesday
DECEMBER 30, 2008

redeyechicago.com

A Chicago Tribune
publication

★ FREE ★
REDEYE ILLUSTRATION

FORGET THE
ALAMO: NU
LOSES 30-23

page 15

Is your iPhone
still cool? **3**

metromix
New Year's wines
on a budget **17**



TROPHY TOWN

We're No. 1, we're No. 1! Why Chicago's tops—the good, the bad and the ugly **pages 6-7**

2do

To watch
Check out a 2 or 7:30 p.m. performance of "Jersey Boys," "Wicked" or "Dirty Dancing" on Wednesday and you'll be entered in a drawing to win \$2,009. Tickets are available at

broadwayinchicago.com/holidays.

To send

Share music with soldiers in the U.S. Army at billboard.com. You can send your own message, and Billboard will give a soldier two free music downloads.

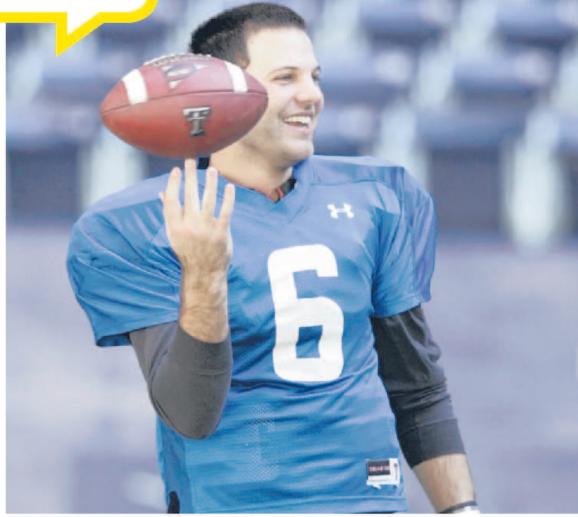
To save

Have nothing to wear to that New Year's party? Take 30 percent off select tops and dresses through Wednesday at Clever Alice (1920 N. Damen Ave.).

To style

Visit blo.dri (408 N. Clark St.) on Tuesday and Wednesday and you can sip free champagne while your hair is styled.

txtable



Aye, aye caption

Text us a funny caption for the photo above and we'll print the best in Wednesday's RedEye. To give it a shot text the word "caption" followed by your brief caption and your name to **47383**. Good luck!



Monday's winner: "This is my pouty face." - Thomas Gjondla



Write a song for G-Rod

While out jogging recently, Gov. Blagojevich told a Tribune

reporter he runs because "it keeps love in your heart."

RedEye saw those words and instantly thought song.

So let's make it into one.

Here's our challenge to Chicago's aspiring songwriters: Take the lyric "Keep Love In Your Heart" and create a song using it. It can be the title, or just part of a verse, but it must be included in an original song about Gov. Blagojevich. Check out redeyechicago.com for more.

Our staff will choose finalists and a winner. This isn't a contest to write new lyrics to an existing song. We want you to create an original song. And the winner will perform the song live on the WGN Midday News. That's live!

The deadline is Jan. 5. Please e-mail complete songs to blagolove@yahoo.com. Send questions to skleinberg@tribune.com.

42 16

TODAY'S FORECAST

It was nice while it lasted: chance of flurries late



WED.

25
15

Sunny,
but
cooler



THU.

32
21

Happy
New
Year!



FRI.

24
14

Chance
of
snow



SAT.

27
17

Partly
cloudy

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Palestinians on Monday carry the bodies of five members of the Balosha family, including three children, who were killed in an Israeli missile strike in the northern Gaza Strip. AP PHOTO

‘WAR TO THE BITTER END’

GAZA STRIKES CONTINUE; DEATH TOLL RISES

Associated Press

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip Israel obliterated symbols of Hamas power on the third day of what the defense minister described Monday as a “war to the bitter end,” striking next to the Hamas premier’s home, and devastating a security compound and a university building.

The three-day death toll rose to at least 315 by Monday morning, with some 1,400 wounded. The UN said at least 51 of the dead were civilians, and medics said eight children younger than 17 were killed in two separate strikes overnight. Israel launched its campaign, the deadliest against Palestinians in decades, on Saturday in retaliation for rocket fire aimed at civilians in southern Israeli towns.

Since then, the number of Israeli troops on the Gaza border has doubled and the Cabinet approved the call-up of 6,500 reserve soldiers.

The strikes have driven Hamas leaders into hiding and appear to have gravely dam-

MASS PROTEST

Tens of thousands of Lebanese Hezbollah supporters stood under pouring rain Monday to protest Israel’s air assault on the Gaza Strip. The rally was by far the largest protest in the Arab world, where outrage has been strong since Israel first launched the assault Saturday.

aged the organization’s ability to launch rockets, but barrages continued. Sirens warning of incoming rockets sent Israelis scrambling for cover throughout the day.

One medium-range rocket fired at the Israeli city of Ashkelon killed an Arab construction worker Monday and wounded several others. He was the second Israeli killed since the beginning of the offensive.

On Sunday, Hamas missiles struck for the first time near the city of Ashdod, only 25 miles from Israel’s heart in Tel Aviv. Hamas leaders also have threatened to renew suicide attacks inside Israel.

On Monday, strong winds blew black

smoke from the bombed sites over Gaza City’s streets. The air hummed with the buzz of drone aircraft and the roar of jets, punctuated by airstrike explosions. Palestinian health officials said one strike killed four Islamic Jihad militants and a child.

The White House released a statement Monday saying “in order for the violence to stop, Hamas must stop firing rockets into Israel and agree to respect a sustainable and durable cease-fire.”

But in Damascus, Syria, a senior exiled Hamas official said there can be no talk of a truce with Israel until the assault ends and Israel reopens the Gaza crossings.

“We need our liberty, we need our freedom and we need to be independent. If we don’t accomplish this objective, then we have to resist. This is our right,” the official, Abu Marzouk, told The Associated Press in an English-language interview.

A six-month truce between Hamas and Israel expired earlier this month, but Hamas refused to extend it.

Is iPhone still the coolest toy on the block?

By Scott Kleinberg
REDEYE

If you’re an iPhone fan with sensitive ears, cover them. We’re about to use the “f-word.”

That’s right: Fading. As in, what finally may be happening to the iPhone’s cachet. Surely, now that it’s available at Walmart, it has to be official. The iPhone is losing its touch.

Right?

Depends on how you look at it. On one hand, offering the iPhone at Walmart, which started Sunday, is a bit like offering filet mignon at a fast-food restaurant, but it also means putting more iPhones in the hands of more users.

And even though Walmart’s price is only \$2 shy of list price, starting at \$197, those hypnotic yellow smiley faces could send shoppers home with cereal, three placemats and a shiny new iPhone. Even cheaper prices are available at Best Buy, where iPhones are on sale for \$189.99, and through AT&T, which is offering refurbished 8GB models online for \$99. That means it’s no longer necessary to camp out for days at Apple Stores. And that iPhones actually are affordable.

So is it too early to declare the \$99 iPhone the next \$5 footlong? (Hum jingle here.)

Probably, because, while there seems to be an unlimited supply of freshly baked bread, these refurbished iPhones are first come, first served.

But it’s likely The Fade will be temporary. The Apple rumor mill is buzzing that the discounts are tied to inventory being cleared ahead of the next iPhone. Apple’s last exhibition at Macworld is next month in San Francisco, and the company might choose to go out with a bang.

A bigger bang than that pickup backfiring in the Walmart parking lot.

» Scott Kleinberg blogs about all things iPhone at iptib.com.



Twitterers recap 2008

Usually, RedEye’s Twitter followers talk to us in 140 characters or less. But we like a challenge. This time, we asked them to sum up 2008 in just six words—in the six-word memoir style created by Smith Magazine.

Want to have a word with us? Join the revolution at twitter.com/redeyechicago.



- @Sldp3 Yes we can; no we didn’t.
- @marcapitman Obama, earthquakes, social media, generous donors.
- @thegirlthatisme 2 legit. 2 legit 2 quit. ;)
- @sam_ash Way too broke. Thank you, economy.
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Let's celebrate the CTA in 2009

The rest of Chicago might be breaking out the champagne glasses, ripping up the confetti and picking glam outfits for New Year's Eve on Wednesday, but that night won't bring much to celebrate when it comes to the CTA.

That's because when the ball drops on Jan. 1, CTA fares will go up—as much as 50 cents more per ride depending on mode of travel and fare media. And that's just to maintain the status quo. Youch.

The fare hike is nothing to toast, but there is a bright side. There is quite a bit to look forward to in 2009. Here are a few of my faves:

Track stars

Nothing takes the sting out of waiting for ice-floe-slow buses like the CTA's bus tracker, which uses GPS technology to let riders know when their bus is going to arrive. This terrific technology expanded in April after a successful pilot on the No. 20-Madison route. Since then, the CTA has taken the brakes off and rolled it out on 75 of the 153 routes, according to CTA spokeswoman Katelyn Thrall.

Unfortunately, that number does not yet include No. 4-Cottage Grove and No. 3-King Drive, the routes that roll right by my house in Bronzeville. But cheers to me—and the rest of the CTA bus bunch: 2009 is set to be the year that bus-tracker dreams come true for every route. Now, if only we could end bus bunching.

What Brown can do for you

North Siders, long-suffering South Siders aren't even trying to hear your angst about the ongoing Brown Line expansion project.

So I'm going to ask them to plug their ears or cover their eyes while we celebrate the light at the end of your transit tunnel.

2009 is the scheduled end date for the \$530 million project that aims to make Brown Line stations wheelchair-accessible and lengthen platforms to accommodate longer trains. Riders already are rejoicing about the end of three-track operations near Belmont, a part of the project that wrapped earlier this month.

Training day

The CTA is making obvious strides in keeping its "L" cars clean, but there's only so much spit-shine you can put on an aging fleet. Fast forward a few days to 2009: the year when approximately 10 prototypes of the CTA's new 5000-series rail cars will begin to arrive for testing, paving the way for the remainder of the 406-car order to be delivered between 2010 and 2012, Thrall said.

The next-generation cars' design—including more aisle-facing seats for increased space and cameras installed in each car—certainly provide a reason to pop public transit champagne.

CORRECTION

Monday's cover story ("Happy banniversary") gave the incorrect name of Ryan Khalil's Lakeview hookah lounge. It is called House of Hookah.



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CONTACT US
Letter to the editor: ritaredeye@tribune.com
Newsroom: 312-222-4970 **Advertising:** 312-222-3886
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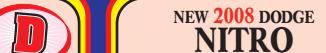
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CHICAGO SHINES WHEN IT COMES TO EVERYTHING—GOOD AND BAD

By Tracy Swartz

REDEYE

We're No. 1! No, really, we are. This month, GQ named Chicago "City of the Year" for its political strength, its role in "The Dark Knight" and its advances in architecture and literature. To celebrate the shedding of our "Second City" status, RedEye has devised its own list of reasons, good and bad, why Chicago is No. 1.

TSWARTZ@TRIBUNE.COM



8

COME FLY WITH US

Chicago is the place to be—or the top stopover, at least. Between O'Hare and Midway, Chicago recorded the most airline arrivals and departures in October, according to a December air travel consumer report by the U.S. Department of Transportation.

With a combined total of 36,094 arrivals and 36,110 departures, Chicago bested Atlanta, L.A. and the three New York area airports (combined).

O'Hare alone logged 28,834 arrivals and 28,850 departures during October. To help handle this air traffic, the airfield opened a new 7,500-foot runway in November.

The air strip, the first new runway in 37 years, handles an average of 326 arrivals each day depending on prevailing winds, aircraft demand and weather conditions, said Elizabeth Cory, a Federal Aviation Administration spokeswoman.

10.25%

10

TAX FACTOR

The buck tops here: Chicago has the highest sales tax of any major U.S. city at 10.25 percent. Earlier this year, the Cook County Board voted to levy a 1 percent tax increase, from 0.75 percent to 1.75 percent, to fill the county's budget gap. When the tax took effect July 1, Chicago became the most expensive city in the country for shoppers.

New York's sales tax is about 8.4 percent for most items, while L.A. charges 8.75 percent. Memphis has one of the highest rates at 9.25 percent.

Of Chicago's 10.25 percent rate, the state levies 6.25 percent, Cook County gets 1.75 percent, the city accounts for 1.25 percent, and the RTA taxes 1 percent for mass transit.

7

CHART TOPPERS

In 2008, the ego landed at No. 1 on the Billboard 200 album chart for the third straight time. Kanye West's album "808s & Heartbreak," a downbeat departure for the Chicago native, debuted at No. 1 in early December. West held the throne for a week before falling to Britney Spears' "Circus."

At the Grammys in February, West had the most nominations (eight) and picked up four trophies, including best rap album ("Graduation").

West wasn't the only Chicago act to top the charts this year. In June, hard-rock band Disturbed debuted their third straight studio album at No. 1 on the Billboard 200. "Indestructible" remained in the top 10 for five weeks.



West
GETTY IMAGES



9

OLYMP-PICK US

Chicago is carrying the torch for the U.S. in the race to host the 2016 Olympics. In June, the International Olympic Committee chose Chicago, Tokyo, Madrid and Rio de Janeiro as finalists to be host city, though Chicago initially was ranked third on that list.

Local officials hope Barack Obama's presidential win will buoy the city's chances to land the Games. A few weeks after the election, Obama pitched his home city to Olympics organizers in a videotaped presentation.

The IOC will choose the host city in October.



6

THE CHOSEN ONE

For Derrick Rose—the No. 1 pick in the 2008 NBA Draft—home is where the heart is. Or the money. Whatever.

Rose, who got his start at Simeon Career Academy High School in Chicago and later flourished as a University of Memphis point guard, returned to Chicago when the Bulls selected him in June.

In his brief but productive time as a Bulls rookie, Rose is second on the team in scoring (17.6 points per game) and the leader in assists (6.3 per game).

Rose even landed on the 2009 All-Star ballot.

Achatz
TRIBUNE FILEIzard
TRIBUNE FILE

4

MURDER CAPITAL

We can only hope we're the Second City in this category:

Chicago is neck-and-neck with New York for the title of the city with the most homicides in 2008. Chicago has logged 501 homicides this year as of last week. New York has tallied 501 homicides as of Dec. 21, according to New York police department statistics.

Chicago Police Supt. Jody Weis, who took office in February, pledged to fight rising crime, including homicides.

The police department logged 442 murders in 2007, down from 598 in 2003 and 703 in 1998.

This year's high-profile homicides included a shooting death after the Taste of Chicago fireworks display and the slayings of Jennifer Hudson's mother, brother and nephew in October. Police charged William Balfour, the estranged husband of Hudson's sister Julia, with the murders.



5

COOK COUNTY

Here's what's cooking in Chicago: This summer, Stephanie Izard, former owner of Scylla in Bucktown, was crowned the first woman and first

Chicagoan to win the title of "Top Chef." That season, the fourth installment of the "Top Chef" series, was filmed in Chicago. Izard recently told Metromix she plans on opening a Chicago restaurant—called the Drunken Goat for her love of cheese—in the coming year.

Also this summer, Grant Achatz of Lincoln Park's Alinea was named the country's outstanding chef at the James Beard Foundation Awards, which have been called the "Oscars of the food world." The award was especially sweet for Achatz, who successfully beat a bout of tongue cancer. This year, Achatz also released "Alinea," a massive coffee-table book stuffed with molecular gastronomy recipes.

In an e-mail message, Achatz said he has proposals out on two books for the coming year. One will be a memoir, co-written by Achatz and business partner Nick Kokonas, exploring Achatz's food, business and cancer battle. The second book is geared toward cooking at home.

Kokonas told RedEye that he and Achatz also hope to strike a deal for a second Chicago restaurant to open in early 2010, but nothing has been finalized.

3

KNIGHTED NO. 1

This summer's premiere of "The Dark Knight" put a smile on the faces of the Chicago Film Office.

The Batman flick, the No. 1 grossing movie of the year, was shot predominantly in Chicago over a three-month span. Production costs in Chicago totaled more than \$35 million, said film office director Rich Moskal.

About 40 Chicago locations were used to set the scene. The film employed 900 local crew members, nearly 100 actors and thousands of extras, Moskal said, but Chicago's skyline and mass transit system were clearly stars of the movie too.

One of the incentives to shoot the movie in Chicago was the state's film tax credit, which gave a 20 percent tax break on production costs. The new state film tax credit bumps up the tax break to 30 percent.

2

CORRUPTION CENTRAL

Federal authorities arrested Gov. Blagojevich earlier this month on charges he attempted to sell Obama's Senate seat. The feds claimed to have wiretapped conversations in which Blagojevich describes the seat as "[bleeping] golden."

With that, Chicago went from "sky high" to "sigh." G-Rod became the No. 1 source of fodder for "The Daily Show," "The Colbert Report" and "Saturday Night Live."

"You are more likely to end up in jail if you become governor of Illinois than if you are a murderer," "Daily Show" host Jon Stewart quipped.

Sadly, he might be right. In a news conference announcing the corruption charges against Blagojevich, FBI Special Agent Robert Grant proclaimed that "if [Illinois] isn't the most corrupt state in the United States, it is one hell of a competitor."

Chicago can claim some of prison's most famous citizens, including former U.S. Rep. Dan Rostenkowski, who pleaded guilty to charges of mail fraud in the mid-1990s.

Obama
ZBIGNIEW BZDAK/TRIBUNE

1

THE WORLDWIDE LEADER

On Nov. 4, Barack Obama, a Chicagoan, was elected the first black president of the U.S. Enough said.

Grading Chicago's progress

By Tracy Swartz
REDEYE

The end of the year means one thing: It's time for report cards. Paying tribute to the city's public school system, which this year began rewarding good grades with cash—an A nets \$50, a B nets \$35 and a C brings in \$20—RedEye grades Chicago.

B

HEALTH

Comments: The statewide smoking ban that took effect in January helped make Chicago a healthier city, though WebMD last month ranked the Chicago-Naperville-Joliet area the 123rd-healthiest area in the U.S., based on 2007 data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. It could be worse: Huntington-Ashland, in the West Virginia-Ohio-Kentucky area, ranked No. 184.

B+

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

Comments: The number of environmentally friendly buildings increased in Chicago this year, and the city also formally announced it's ditching its controversial blue bag recycling program in favor of blue carts.

A

SOCIAL STUDIES

Comments: On the history side, thousands of Chicagoans and tourists flocked to hear Barack Obama's victory speech in Grant Park in November. But perhaps the city's social skills are a little too good. "Second City" veterans Tina Fey and Amy Poehler helped boost Chicago's class clown status.

B-

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Comments: The CTA has made efforts to improve service through expansion of Brown Line capacity and aggressive rollout of its bus tracking system, but the International Olympics Committee noted that Chicago's mass transit system needs work if the city wants to land the 2016 Olympics. Oh, and fares are going up in '09.

C

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

Comments: 2008 should have been a banner year for development, but the economy has hampered the Trump International Hotel & Tower and slowed work on the Chicago Spire.

Total earned: \$175—just enough for a few days of metered parking downtown.

chicago

G-Rod's lawyer: Impeachment not justified



Associated Press

SPRINGFIELD Gov.

Blagojevich's lawyer urged a special Illinois House committee not to recommend impeachment, arguing Monday that a vague array of charges and evidence don't merit removing

the governor from office.

"We are fighting shadows, and that's not right," attorney Ed Genson said.

Genson complained bitterly that the committee was considering snippets of tape-recorded conversations that are quoted in a criminal complaint against the Democratic governor. He said no one knows the full context of those remarks or whether they are quoted accurately.

Both may become clear soon. Federal prosecutors filed a motion Monday asking for court permission to release four of the Blagojevich conversations caught by wiretaps.

A judge will hear the motion next week. Genson said he hadn't seen the federal request yet and didn't know whether he would support or oppose release of the recordings.

Blagojevich was arrested by the FBI on Dec. 9 on a variety of corruption charges, including scheming to benefit from naming President-elect Obama's replacement in the U.S. Senate.

His arrest prompted a chorus of calls for his resignation. A House committee was appointed to recommend whether Blagojevich should be impeached.

The impeachment committee has reviewed the criminal charges as well as a long list of other misconduct allegations. At Monday's hearing, Genson's presentation was akin to the defense case in a criminal trial.

He argued that the quotes from the federal complaint reveal talk but no action, and all the accusations against Blagojevich don't add up to anything that merits impeachment.

It was clear from the lawmakers' questions that they have little sympathy for Blagojevich or for Genson's arguments.

At one point, Genson grew so frustrated that he pleaded for help.

"Isn't anyone here going to stand up for the governor, or is it going to be one [critic] after the other?" he asked. "This is the impartial panel?"

TWITTER PATROL

The potholes are bad. So we asked our Twitter followers if they had any pothole stories to share. Here are some. Want to open up to RedEye? Join us at twitter.com/redeyechicago.

@PrettyTynna

Yes. My car has severe tire damage. I tried to file a complaint, and of course, got nowhere ...

@retrotrash

Last fall I hit a pothole on my bike, flipped over my bars, and broke my wrist. 3 months in 4 different casts. fill the holes, chicago!

@phantom

tweeter I dropped a penny into the pothole at Columbus and North Water and 15 minutes later I heard it hit bottom. Scary stuff.

@NikkiWadley

I have hit several deep potholes. Thanks to my \$500 a piece Pirelli Tires, I am fine. Better Bel! If you can, get them!



Fluctuating temperatures have produced a high number of potholes this winter. ALEX GARCIA/TRIBUNE

THE POTHOLES HAVE ARRIVED

AND THEY'RE EARLY—OFFICIALS FORCED TO MAKE ADJUSTMENTS

Chicago Tribune

On an average December day at the height of last year's record- and axle-breaking winter pothole season, the city's Department of Transportation logged 300 new pothole complaints a day.

By 8 p.m. Monday, the daily count was 940 and counting. And, according to Chicago Transportation Commissioner Thomas Byrne, many of this winter's potholes are bigger than last year's record batch.

The combination of mounting pothole reports and wildly swinging temperatures—the kind of weather that breeds potholes—prompted the city and two of its unions to announce an accord Monday that would eliminate overtime spending, giving pothole fillers longer days but a shorter, four-day work week, while providing the city with seven-day-a-week pothole coverage for the first time. Most years, crews take the weekend off except for emergencies.

At the same time, the city is using a computerized system that once tracked the efficiency of repair crews by mapping their location to instead direct crews along routes that will let them fill as many potholes as possible on their shift—typically up to 300 potholes a day.

Byrne said the savings from the overtime deal, around \$300,000, will be crucial to helping the city meet its \$10 million to \$12 million pothole repair budget. But it may do little to assuage frustrated motorists contending with the city's pitted arterial streets, made worse by dramatic shifts between freezing, thawing and rain.

"Sixty-one degrees [on Saturday] put us under the bus," Byrne told reporters Monday at a news conference at the CDOT Pothole Command Center.

Pothole season arrives early

Recent extreme temperatures have produced an unusually high crop of potholes for this time of year. Many of the potholes are larger and deeper than last year, which was the worst winter for potholes in Chicago in a decade.

● POTHOLE AREAS

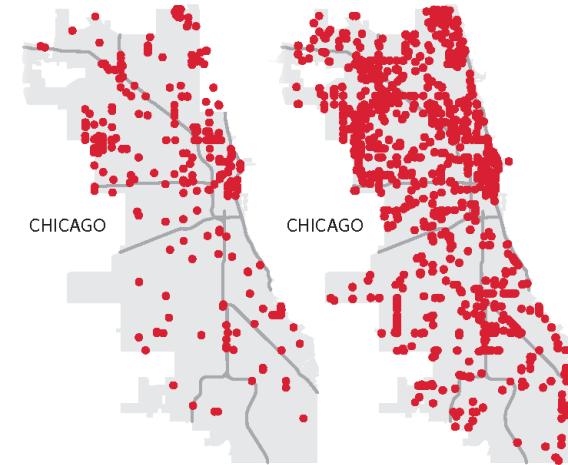
As reported to the Chicago Department of Transportation

DEC. 21-24

281 unrepairs potholes

MONDAY

1,126 unrepairs potholes

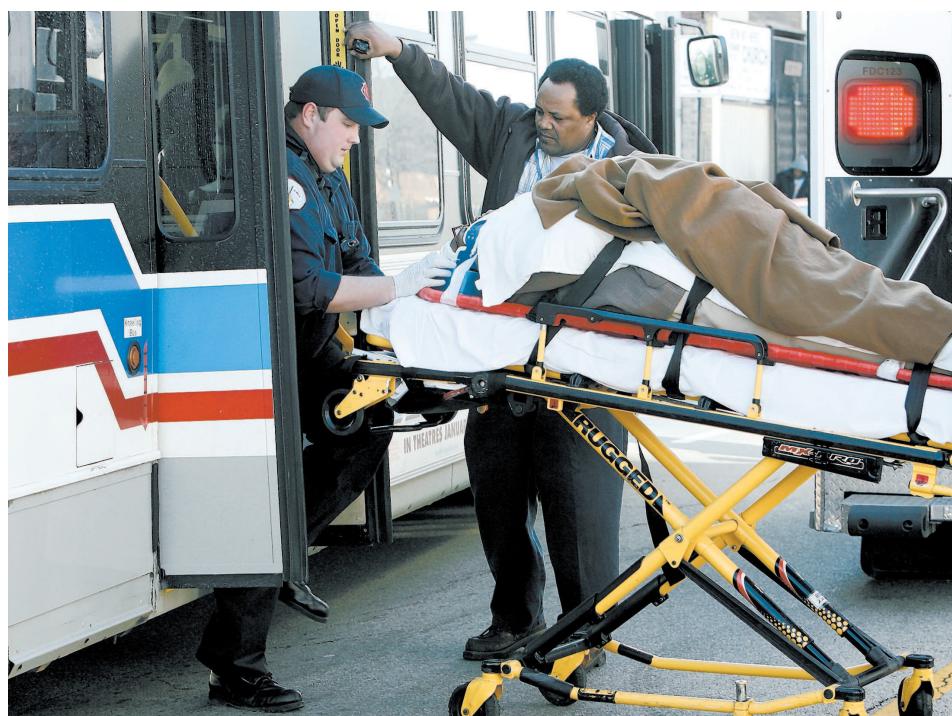


Locations and density of potholes are approximate.

TRIBUNE

This winter, it routinely takes three days or more to fix a pothole, and in some cases can take six days or more, Byrne said. In the summertime, potholes are filled within a day and a half.

Priority this winter will be given to arterial streets and emergencies—holes so big that cars are damaged.



Crash injures 9

Nine people were taken to hospitals Monday afternoon after a collision involving a CTA bus, a bicyclist and another vehicle on the South Side, authorities said. A No. 67 bus was westbound on West 69th Street when it was struck at South Racine Avenue, said CTA spokeswoman Wanda Taylor. **ANTONIO PEREZ/TRIBUNE**

Oops! Suspect makes it easy

The note handed to a Fifth Third Bank teller Friday was clear enough (despite some grammatical errors): "Be Quick Be Quiet. Give your cash or I'll shoot."

What was even clearer to FBI investigators examining the note was that they were not dealing with a criminal mastermind. The alleged robber, identified Monday as Thomas Infante, 40, had written it on the back of his own pay stub, which helpfully provided the FBI with his name and home address.

"It's fairly unusual that we see something that specifically stupid," said FBI spokesman

Ross Rice.

Infante is accused of robbing the bank at 4017 W. Lawrence Ave. of about \$400, according to an FBI affidavit filed Monday.

His demand note, written inside the bank on a torn half of his pay stub, matched up with the other half, which was found outside the bank doors. The pieced-together stub showed Infante was paid \$165.99 by Jewel Food Stores on Oct. 23, according to the FBI.

Infante was arrested at his Cary home and allegedly confessed to investigators, according to the FBI affidavit.

Letter to Obama contained powder

Two Springfield office buildings were locked down Monday after a letter addressed to President-elect Obama was found to contain a suspicious powder. The powder turned out to be harmless, officials said. Springfield Fire Department division chief Bob Reside said the letter's return address was in Chicago, where a man suspected of sending it was taken into custody.

Emanuel to resign congressional seat

Congressman Rahm Emanuel plans to resign his congressional seat Friday, and that means residents in Chicago's 5th congressional district have a special election coming. Emanuel is leaving Congress because he has accepted President-elect Obama's offer to be the new White House chief of staff.

Molotov cocktail hits synagogue

A Molotov cocktail thrown Monday against the wall of one of Chicago's oldest synagogues caused minimal damage but worried local Jewish officials, who said the incident could be a response to the latest fighting in the Middle East. No one was hurt in the North Side arson police are investigating as a hate crime. Bomb and arson detectives were at the scene Monday afternoon.

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Stock # EZ7535
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MCT PHOTO

Unreal, isn't it?

1 Charles Green, secret service agent in Kansas City, Mo., displays a stack of counterfeit money. Each year, Green says, about \$300,000 in fake money is found in the Kansas City area, and recently fake 50s have been popping up.

A Palin baby? You betcha

2 The 18-year-old daughter of former Republican vice presidential candidate Sarah Palin gave birth in Alaska to a son. People magazine reports that Bristol Palin gave birth to Tripp Easton Mitchell Johnston on Sunday.

Savannah explosions

3 An explosion in underground electrical cables blew off manhole covers and started several fires in downtown Savannah, Ga., on Monday, prompting police to evacuate several stores and restaurants. No injuries were immediately reported, police said.

No class-action status for suits

4 A New Orleans judge refused to grant class-action status to the lawsuits of hundreds of Gulf Coast hurricane victims who claim they were exposed to potentially toxic formaldehyde fumes while living in emergency trailers.

Where'd he go?

5 A Japanese man who had been living in Terminal 1 of the Benito Juarez International Airport in Mexico City since Sept. 2—for no apparent reason—left under equally mysterious circumstances. Authorities searched the terminal for Hiroshi Nohara on Monday but he was nowhere to be found.

Missing in the snow

6 Eight snowmobilers buried in avalanches were missing Monday in western Canada's backcountry, and rescuers in Fernie, British Columbia, searching for the men faced "extreme" risk themselves from crashing snow.

Pushing peace

7 Pakistan's army chief stressed Monday the need to avoid conflict with India, days after he ordered troops toward the rivals' shared border amid tensions following last month's terror attacks on Mumbai.

Missing woman may have jumped

8 **MIAMI** The family of a missing cruise ship passenger said Monday that they suspect the woman "chose an unfortunate ending to her life" and jumped from a cruise ship balcony into the waters off Mexico's coast on Christmas night.

The U.S. Coast Guard suspended its

search Monday for Jennifer Ellis Seitz, a Florida journalist, after combing more than 4,200 square miles off the coast of Cancun, where the ship had just visited. Mexican authorities said they would continue their search for another 48 hours.

Seitz had "previous emotional issues," yet

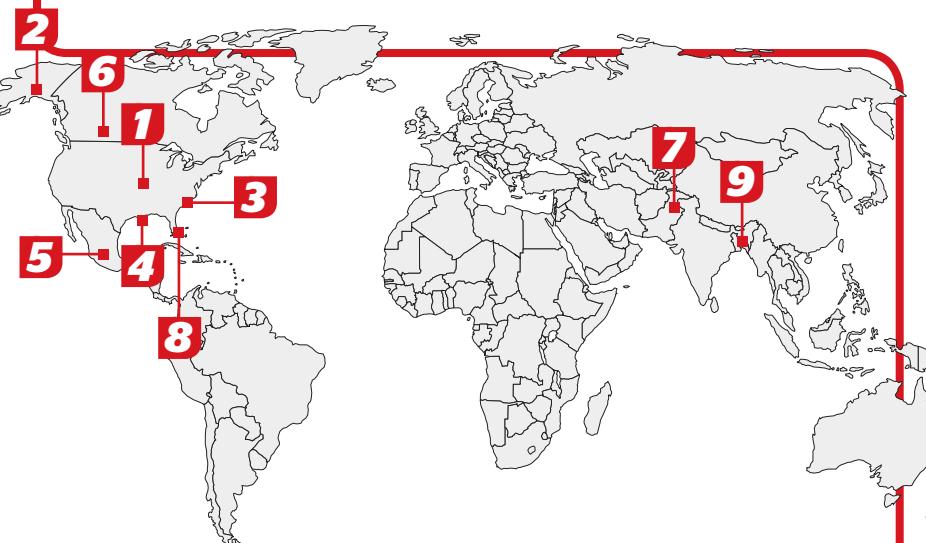
there were no outward signs of distress while on the seven-night cruise, her family said in a statement given to a former employer, The News Chief in Winter Haven.

Seitz and her husband, Raymond, were celebrating their one-year anniversary on the Norwegian Pearl cruise ship.



Bangladeshis vote

9 **DHAKA, Bangladesh** Tens of millions of Bangladeshis cast ballots Monday in the first national election in seven years, a vote aimed at restoring democracy to the troubled South Asian nation after two years of emergency rule. Security was tight and voting was the most peaceful in decades—a stark contrast to the failed elections of 2007, which dissolved in street riots and prompted a military-backed interim government to take over. AP PHOTO



My, how we have grown

The U.S. will enter 2009 with

305,529,237 residents, the Census Bureau estimated on Monday.

That's an increase of **2,743,429** this year.

The bureau says that in January, **one birth is expected to occur every eight seconds** in the U.S. and **one death every 12 seconds**.

In addition, international migration is expected to **add one person every 36 seconds** to the U.S. population in January.

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New 2009 Nissan
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Stk#N2239, N2261

Lease for: **\$169** for
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\$2323 due at lease signing.
No security deposit required.

New 2009 Nissan
ROGUE
Stk#N2450, N2276

Lease for: **\$179** for
39 mos.*
\$2323 due at lease signing.
No security deposit required.

New 2009 Nissan
MURANO
Stk#N1868, N1890

Lease for: **\$189** for
39 mos.*
\$2323 due at lease signing.
No security deposit required.

Add tax, title, license and doc fee. *Closed end lease with qualified credit. Security deposit waived with approved credit. Lessee may be responsible for excess wear, tear and/or mileage.

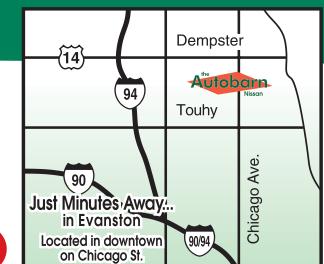
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Reader favorites

We asked RedEye readers to vote via text on some of the best and worst of the past year, and here's how it turned out.

BEST TEAM

White Sox **44.9%**

Blackhawks **17.01%**

Cubs **15.65%**

Fire **11.56%**

Bears **8.84%**

Wolves **2.04%**

BIGGEST LETDOWN

Cubs swept in playoffs **62.64%**

Devin Hester **17.58%**

White Sox lose in first round **14.29%**

Rush shuts down **3.3%**

Joakim Noah **2.2%**

BEST MOMENT

Sox win playoff play-in game **36.67%**

NU in 1st bowl game since '05 **36.67%**

Bulls get Derrick Rose **18.89%**

Cubs clinch division **6.67%**

Fire gets Brian McBride **1.11%**

BEST COMEBACK

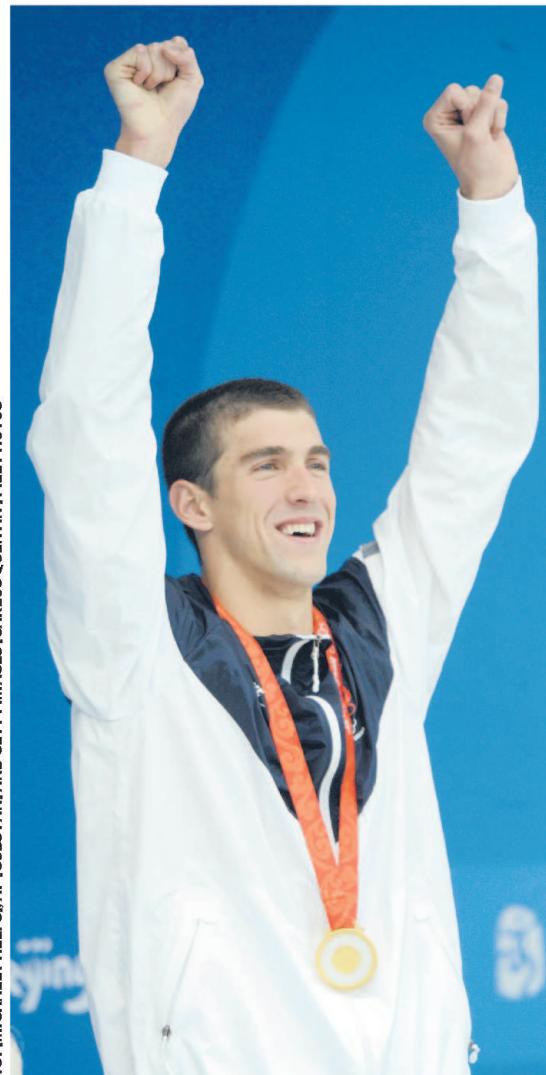
Blackhawks **31.65%**

Kyle Orton **31.65%**

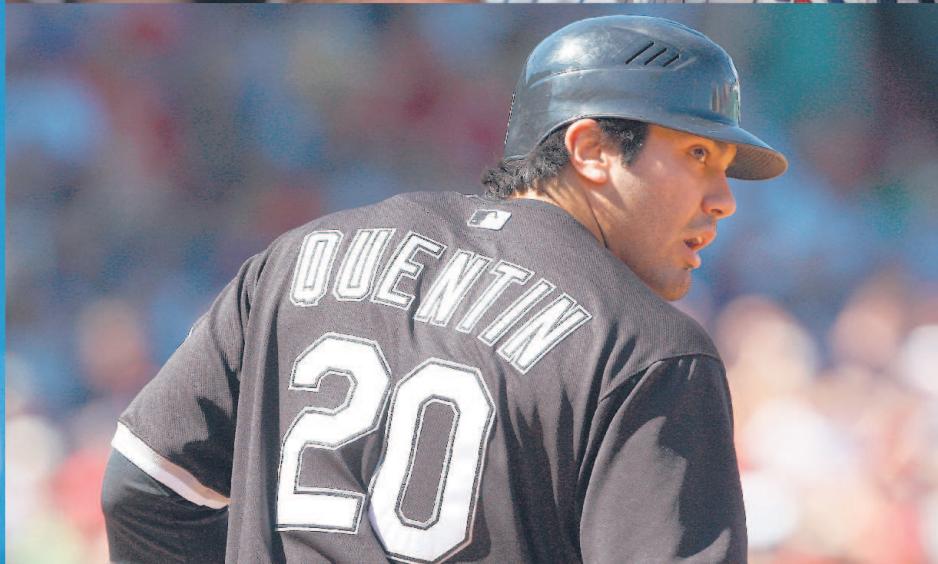
Bears running game **18.99%**

Ryan Dempster **10.13%**

Kerry Wood **7.59%**



MCT (MICHAEL PHELPS), AP (CUBS FAN) AND GETTY IMAGES [CARLOS QUENTIN] FILE PHOTOS



Rear view

RedEye's contributors remember the year that was in sports



Dr. Fantasy

redeyesports@tribune.com

Loopy Bengals receiver Chad Johnson pioneered the new trend of football players changing their name to something really wacky by legally becoming Chad Javon Ocho Cinco. Then, Tampa Bay's Greg White became Stylez G. Is it too much to ask to see Donovan McNasty, Peyton Man-O-Manning or Matt Running Is My Forte next season?



Bag Boy

redeyesports@tribune.com

My sports moment is the complete Cub postseason meltdown. Since they wet the bed, it inspired me to create a line of diapers, appropriately called "Cubbies!" As in, "I'm having some bladder problems, but no worries, I've got my Cubbies on." The patent is pending.

'08 Bears postmortem

"The Bears' collapse in Houston was reminiscent of the Carolina, Atlanta and Tampa Bay losses. These games are where the season and playoffs were lost. The Atlanta and Tampa Bay losses were especially painful to watch." —STEVEN HOLMAN



Readers step on their soapbox about the state of Chicago sports. You can join them online at twitter.com/redeyechicago, via e-mail to redeyesports@tribune.com or by texting "whiz" and your comment to 47383.

"I can't believe we went out like that! We need some offense and bad. If we don't get it soon it will be another bad year in 2009!" —DEUCES

"I am deeply disappointed in my favorite sports team. The Texans—of all teams!" —COLBY NELSON

"Horrible, just horrible! Very disappointing for us fans." —CARRIE HARGUS

► Time to write a eulogy for the 2008 Bears season. We asked our Twitter followers, and here's what they came up with. Want your say next time? Follow us at twitter.com/redeyechicago.

"Today we lay to rest a squad that could have won the Super Bowl ... if arrogance won football games." —ZACKQUAINTANCE

"Here rests Lovie who stayed longer than he should have." —PURPLEPOPPLE

Sung to the tune of "Bear Down, Chicago Bears":
"Offense down, Chicago Bears, even I could bat down a Kyle Orton pass. ... Offense down, Chicago Bears ..." —KWELLS2416

"Sunday was a day of great sadness, for several great teams died yesterday. So did the Bears." —RANDOMNICKNAME

"(Even further) down." —SAM_ASH_BEAR



Leo Ebersole
lebersole@tribune.com

Nov. 1, 2008: Seven Northwestern grads huddle around a TV expecting OT for their beloved Wildcats, who are tied with Minnesota 17-17 with a few seconds left. But Minnesota decides to air it out. The ball goes up, gets knocked around and is ... intercepted ... by Brendan Smith ... who's ... not going out of bounds. And he's not getting tackled! HE'S GONNA SCORE! Northwestern wins, and a room full of 28-year-olds erupts like a bunch of girls at a "Twilight" premiere.



Jimmy Greenfield
jgreenfield@tribune.com

Sitting in a bar with some Kansas pals watching the Jayhawks beat Memphis. Bedlam broke out when Mario Chalmers hit his game-tying shot to send it to OT, and afterward we just sat there, spent and still in disbelief. I watched the game on TiVo when I got home and every day after that for a month.



Rahula Strohl
rstrohl@tribune.com

Bears fans may claim this is a football town, but they're wrong. An all-Chicago World Series would shut this city down like no Super Bowl could, and the closest the Cubs and White Sox have come in over a century was this year. The Sox won their second division title in four years. The Cubs won their second consecutive division title. Now if only they can figure out what to do once they get to the playoffs ...



Marc Silverman
espnradio1000.com

While out to dinner, I convinced the girlfriend to let me watch the NBA draft lottery despite the Bulls having only a 1.7 percent chance of winning it. The girl is now long gone, but I got one hell of a point guard for my basketball team.



Sarah Spain
mouthpiece.sports.com

A new year is on the horizon, so I've decided to look back at 2008 with the hope that inevitably springs from new beginnings. I won't dwell on the Cubs' collapse or more mediocrity from the Bears and Bulls. Instead, I will look to the future: rookies Matt Forte, Derrick Rose and Kris Versteeg. The Bears have an honest-to-goodness star running back, the Bulls can rebuild around their No. 1 pick, and the Blackhawks might just have back-to-back Calder Trophy winners in Patrick Kane and Versteeg. So I guess my top sports moment of 2008 is ... 2009.



Jen Patterson
csnchicago.com/pages/monstersinthemorning

2008 was about missed opportunities. The Cubs got 97 wins and clinched the NL Central. But they failed to move past the first round of the playoffs for the second year in a row. The White Sox missed the opportunity to take advantage of Carlos Quentin's MVP-type season after he fractured his wrist. The Bulls have missed the opportunity to take advantage of No. 1 pick Derrick Rose. The Bears had a whole season of missed opportunities, leaving the Blackhawks as the last glimmer of hope for Chicago sports fans.



Tracy Swartz
tswartz@tribune.com

For as long as I can remember, basically the last two years, I have been a huge Jo Noah fan for all of his good deeds at my alma mater, UF. Earlier this year, I had the chance to meet the fro-ed wonder after a Bulls game. As I was interviewing Tyrus Thomas, I felt a large presence behind me. It was Jo Noah. We chatted about UF's chances in getting a bid to March Madness (not good) and about his time in Gainesville (very good). I didn't use my Noah notes for the story, you know, ethics and all. Instead, I may press them in a scrapbook. Or I may use them as the basis for a romantic comedy starring Krusty the Klown.



Shannon Owens
redeyesports@tribune.com

Everybody knows it took eight gold medals for Michael Phelps to make Olympic history. But it was the seventh that made him a legend. I was sitting in a bar watching swimming, and everything and everyone stood still as Phelps looked like he might be upset during the 100-meter butterfly. It took a few moments to realize he'd won because it was by the narrowest of margins to tie Mark Spitz. Some called it luck, but I call it destiny. And, thankfully, I was a witness.



Brian Moore
brmoore@tribune.com

I've never been a big golf fan, but watching Tiger Woods win the U.S. Open on one good leg was simply amazing. Woods had converted a new fan. Too bad he didn't play the rest of the year.



Elliott Serrano
redeyechicago.com/geektome

The Cubs' Aramis Ramirez is reported to be involved in cockfighting in the Dominican Republic. Declaring it isn't illegal in the Dominican, as well as part of his "culture," Ramirez dodges the type of negative attention given to Michael Vick. The revelation also gets less attention, and generates less outrage, than the "temporary" end of the Arena Football League.



Soxman
redeyesports@tribune.com

Some say good things come in threes, so it is fitting my greatest sports moment was the White Sox defeating three teams in three days to clinch the AL Central crown. Their run was not for the faint of heart. Still, winning a division they were picked to finish fourth in, against improbable odds, in a winner-take-all showdown provided a lifelong memory for this sock-laden superhero.

Eve of the eve

There's a new year on the way, but, sorry, not a new set of panelists.



TOPIC	LEO EBERSOLE lebersole@tribune.com	TRACY SWARTZ tswartz@tribune.com	JIMMY GREENFIELD jgreenfield@tribune.com	RAHULA STROHL rstrohl@tribune.com	BRIAN MOORE brmoore@tribune.com
1 What's more impressive than a nine-game hockey winning streak?	Brett Favre throwing a team-crippling interception for the ninth straight year.	Not streaking at the game. Painting your moobs doesn't make them disappear.	A 10-game winning streak. And after that? 11 games. I could go on.	A 16-game football losing streak.	Going winless for an entire season. Even a blind squirrel finds a nut once in a while.
2 Give the Winter Classic a different name.	Disney Presents: Princesses on Ice. Hey, you want to sell tickets or not?	Put a Rink on It.	Chad Ocho Cinco.	The This Should Have Been at Soldier Field Extravaganza.	The Classic Overhyped Chicago Sports Event.
3 Do you see things any differently two days after the Bears' loss?	They didn't choke as badly as Washington did, but that's not saying much.	I'm still waiting for the Bears to score. No delayed gratification here.	No, because the bourbon still hasn't worn off.	I see my vacations starting in January, not February.	Sure. If the Bears made the playoffs, it would have just delayed the inevitable flop.
4 Best of 2008: I'll never forget the time Jimmy introduced us to his back quilt-er, hair.	... UF made it into the national title bowl, a chronic problem for Florida fans.	... I skated on the ice at Wrigley Field, and it won't even happen until today.	... Tracy's JoNo actually played well. Wait, that'd have to happen for me to remember it.	... Danica Patrick actually won an IndyCar race and shed the Anna Kournikova tag.
5 Worst of 2008: Who is the sports jerk of the year?	Terrell Owens. Admittedly, he's the Clint Eastwood of this award.	No matter how hard Kyle Orton tries, he can't ever pull it off.	Anybody who didn't vote for Ron Santo.	Me. I'm that drunk guy with the foul mouth sitting behind you and your 6-year-old.	Michael Vick. Just ask Whizzer.

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ALAMO BOWL
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YOU CAN FORGET THIS ALAMO

SAN ANTONIO Chase Daniel threw a 7-yard touchdown pass to Jeremy Maclin in overtime, and Missouri rallied to beat Northwestern 30-23 in the Alamo Bowl on Monday night.

After the 25th-ranked Tigers scored on the opening possession of overtime, their defense delivered too. Missouri sacked a backpedaling C.J. Bacher, forcing a fumble that left Northwestern with fourth-and-goal from the 32-yard line.

Bacher's desperation heave into the end zone was knocked down, and Daniel rushed off the sideline to celebrate.

After Missouri kicker Jeff Wolfert missed a 44-yard field goal attempt with three seconds left in regulation, the Tigers got the ball first in the extra session and scored on Daniel's 7-yard touchdown pass to Maclin. Northwestern failed to get going.

The win gave Missouri (10-4) double-digit victories in consecutive seasons for the first time in school history. The No. 22 Wildcats (9-4) fell to 1-6 in bowl games, with their only win coming in their first bowl appearance in 1949.



While Northwestern pulled out to an early lead Monday night, Jeremy Maclin's 75-yard punt return late in the second quarter ignited a previously dormant Missouri attack and pulled the Tigers into a tie at halftime. **MCR**

HOMETOWN HITS



BULLS 100, NEW JERSEY 87

Rookie Derrick Rose had 21 points and a season-high 13 assists, Ben Gordon scored 24 points, and the Bulls beat the New Jersey Nets 100-87 on Monday. Andres Nocioni and Larry Hughes each added 17 points for the Bulls (14-17), who won for only the fourth time in 18 road games.



Back-to-back double-figure scoring games have earned Illinois guard Trent Meacham a share of this week's Big Ten Player of the Week honors. Meacham scored 23 points in Illinois' 75-59 win over then-No. 25 Missouri last Tuesday. The senior followed that up with 16 points Sunday in the Illini's 62-53 win over Eastern Michigan.

TUESDAY'S GAMES

- » University at Illinois-Chicago vs. Milwaukee, 7 p.m.
- » Loyola vs. Alcorn St., 7 p.m.

MONDAY'S RESULTS

- » Chicago St. 98, Campbell 89



watch dog

WHIZZER
redeyesports
@tribune.com

Can you feel that? Or hear it? Or see it? It's disappointment, letdown, anticlimax, whatever you want to call it. And it's coming our way.

Yes, weeks of hyping up the Winter Classic have set us up for a letdown, Wrigley-style. I hope the Cubs curse does not follow the Blackhawks the rest of the season.

NHL



BLACKHAWKS AT DETROIT

6:30 p.m. CSN
A preview of the Winter Classic, but in Detroit, inside and not nearly as cool.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL



ILLINOIS AT PURDUE

6 p.m. ESPN2
The bruising Big Ten basketball season kicks off, although it often resembles football.

HOLIDAY BOWL



OKLAHOMA ST. VS. OREGON

7 p.m. ESPN
What holiday is it Tuesday?

3 NFL coaches axed

The Detroit Lions, Cleveland Browns and New York Jets are looking for coaches. Rod Marinelli was fired by the Lions on Monday after an 0-16 season, and the Browns let Romeo Crennel go. In a surprise, the New York Jets fired Eric Mangini.



Marinelli



Crennel



Mangini

Vegas likes Giants, Titans

Las Vegas sports books favor the New York Giants to win the Super Bowl, giving 2-to-1 odds on the NFC's No. 1 seed to repeat as champs. The Tennessee Titans are the AFC favorite at 4-1.

Clemens takes another hit

Roger Clemens' name is being removed from a sports medicine institute in Houston in another dent to his legacy since he was linked to steroids. The Roger Clemens Institute for Sports Medicine at Memorial Hermann will shed Clemens' name Jan. 1 "to better reflect its commitment to all sports and athletes," the health system said.

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metromix



Pop quiz

Not sure what to uncork on New Year's Eve? We asked local wine shops to help

By Lisa Arnett and M. Kathleen Pratt

Hoping to impress at a New Year's Eve party? Don't be the eighteenth guy to walk through the door with a bottle of Veuve. To help you branch out without breaking the bank, we asked owners and managers at five wine shops that opened in 2008 to suggest bottles for \$30 or less.

David and Matt Somsky, owners, Vrai Amour

953 W. Webster Ave. 773-549-9740

Owned and operated by a father-son team, this sweetly named shop (meaning "true love" in French) has been hooking up party-bound Lincoln Parkers since April. Most of the 80 bottles stocked here are less than \$30 a pop.

The Somskys' pick: L. Mawby Talisman Methode Champenoise, \$29.99. Proof that not all good bubbly comes from abroad: This dry, full-bodied blend of pinot gris, chardonnay, pinot noir and vignoles grapes hails from a small winery in Michigan producing only sparkling wine.

New Year's Eve hours: 11 a.m.-9 p.m.

Todd Brill, owner, Todd's Wine

1616 N. Damen Ave. 312-698-9952

Brill stocks hundreds of options at his tiny Bucktown shop, including plenty for the budget-conscious crowd. For the holidays, he's assembled a list of alternatives to champagne that pair well with traditional New Year's foods from around the world, from zampone and cotechino (stuffed pig's trotter and spiced sausage) in Italy to black-eyed peas and greens in the Southern U.S.

Brill's pick: Carl Schmitt-Wagner Riesling Auslese 2006, \$29. With a bit of spice, this German riesling pairs well with pickled herring. Yes, herring—eaten at the stroke of midnight or as the first bite of the new year, the tiny fish is said to bring good luck in Germany, Poland and Scandinavia.

New Year's Eve hours: 11 a.m.-9 p.m.

Kyle McHugh, owner, Drinks Over Dearborn

650 N. Dearborn St. 312-337-9463

You have to ring the buzzer and head up a flight of stairs to get to this 2-month-old River North shop owned by the founder of theboozehound.com, but the unique stock is worth the extra effort.

McHugh's pick: Domaine des Lauriers Sparkling Vouvray, \$13.99. Made from chenin blanc grapes from France's Loire Valley, this wine has hints of orange blossom, grapefruit and lemon zest, without the yeastiness of other bruts, McHugh says.

New Year's Eve hours: 11 a.m.-9 p.m.

Lance Marshall, manager, Lush Wine and Spirits

1257 S. Halsted St. 312-738-1900

The Lush in University Village (there's another location in Roscoe Village) isn't exactly new in 2008, but it did move to a new location across the street from the original in June. The new digs are more versatile, with more space for private events and an outdoor area where, in warmer months, you're welcome to uncork your purchases on the spot.

Marshall's pick: Graham Beck Brut Rose 2006, \$19.75. This pinot noir-chardonnay blend from South Africa is a Lush staff favorite. Pale pink in color, it will remind you of red berries and summer citrus.

New Year's Eve hours: Noon-10 p.m.

Nathan Adams, co-owner, Red & White

1861 N. Milwaukee Ave. 773-486-4769

Adams and Sean Krainik, the owners of this Bucktown wine shop, pride themselves on a hand-picked yet budget-friendly selection—about half of their bottles are less than \$20. Good news for cold winter nights: Red & White recently added bike delivery within the area bordered by Augusta Boulevard and Fullerton, California and Ashland Avenues.

Adams' pick: Torre Gaia "Asprino" Brut Spumante, \$12.

Adams says this sparkling wine from Italian producer Torre Gaia, new to the Chicago market in 2008, provides unusually good structure for such a low price. Expect hints of citrus and good minerality all around.

New Year's Eve hours: 10 a.m.-10 p.m.



Red & White
FILE FOR METROMIX

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TUESDAY FREEBIE

No pay to play

Tryst, 3485 N. Clark St. 773-617-1647.

Get a jump on New Year's Eve partying at Tryst's **Fourth Annual Eve of the Eve Party**. Local cover band Undercover brings the party spirit with live sets; drink specials (\$3 Bud Lights and \$5 bombs) keep things moving along. 8 p.m. No cover.

tue
30

Sip 'n' sample

South Loop Wine Cellar, 1442 S. Michigan Ave. 312-356-0630.

As you know, the holidays are the perfect time of year to bone up on festive bubbles. Stop by this neighborhood wine shop for a **champagne tasting** with samples of the popular New Year's sipping, along with sparkling wine, cava, prosecco and more. Includes light appetizers. 6:30 p.m. \$5.

Purposeful partying

Union Station, 210 S. Canal St. 312-787-9824.

Want to put your good times to good use? Proceeds from the annual **Eve of the Eve celebration** fund scholarships for local students to attend private schools and college. The bash includes cocktails, appetizers, live music by Maggie Speaks and a silent auction. A smaller version of the charity gala, the Eve of the Eve Classic, starts at 7 p.m. at the Santa Fe Building (224 S. Michigan Ave.). 8 p.m. \$125-\$160. Tickets: highsight.org

wed
31

Down and dirty

Dirty Martini, 23 W. Hubbard St. 312-661-1230.

You aren't required to get messy at **A Dirty NYE**, but you never know where a good party will take you. The New Year's Eve bash at this new-ish River North spot, which boasts chilled vodka on tap, includes appetizers, premium drinks, a champagne toast and party favors. 9 p.m. \$75.

New Year's steal

Chicago Ale House, 2200 W. Lawrence Ave. 773-275-2020.

Penny pinchers and procrastinators alike will dig **New Year's Eve at Chicago Ale House**. Diners get a choice of filet mignon, New York strip steak, ribeye or skirt steak, any appetizer on the menu (except ribs, sorry) and two glasses of champagne with a toast at midnight. Bonus: Make reservations Wednesday for extra savings, such as 15 percent off your New Year's Eve bill, plus a VIP card that gets you 15 percent off every visit in 2009. 4 p.m. \$39.95.

thu
1

Start it off right

Bloom Yoga Studio, 4663 N. Rockwell St. 773-463-9642.

Whether your New Year's resolution is to exercise, be more introspective, or heck, just to sweat out the booze from the night before, the **New Year's Day Yoga Workshop** has you covered. Instructor Joie Much leads a 90-minute, all-level hatha flow class that focuses on balancing the mind and body through breath work and postures. 10 a.m. \$20. Registration recommended: bloomyogastudio.com

HOW TO REACH US |

Metromix is published Monday through Saturday as part of RedEye, an edition of the Chicago Tribune.

FOR ENTERTAINMENT INFORMATION 24/7, GO TO METROMIX.COM.

For questions, comments and story ideas, contact Matt McGuire, editor, at mmcguire@tribune.com

To submit event information for Metromix or metromix.com, go to metromix.com/listings.





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\$2 Mickey's Hand
Grenades, \$4 312 and
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team trivia 8 p.m., \$5
Jameson and Corzo
tequila cocktails; 2047
W. Division St. 773-489-
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Halsted St. 773-296-
9700.

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cocktails, \$3 Miller
Lite bottles; 3551 N.
Sheffield Ave. 773-327-
7800.

HYDRATE
Wild Tuesdays. DJs D,
Dynamico and George
G spin Latin house,
\$4 Sauza margaritas

and Absolut cocktails,
\$3 Sauza shots and
Corona bottles; 3458
N. Halsted St. 773-975-
9244.

IO
9:30 p.m.: Pub Quiz.
Round up a five-person
team and compete for
food and drink prizes.
Drink specials include
\$2 PBR drafts, \$8 PBR

Metromix's party picks

MANNEQUIN NIGHTCLUB

9 p.m.: Resolution—Pre-New Year's Eve party.
B96 Mixmaster DJ Speed spins with DJs
Sohbash, Krush, Sunny Singh, Fozilla, Tito and
Freeze. No cover with RSVP: djsohbash@gmail.com; 306 N. Halsted St. 312-850-0065.

STONE LOTUS

10 p.m.: Eve of the Eve. A pre-New Year's party
features DJ Elvir Gazic and bottle service. \$10-
\$20; 873 N. Orleans St. 312-440-9680.

ALHAMBRA PALACE RESTAURANT

9 p.m.: Salsa Tuesdays. DJs Luis "Rollin" Rivera
and Dwight Burr spin. \$5 before 11 p.m. with
RSVP: guestlist@hotsalsakitchen.com; 1240
W. Randolph St. 312-666-9555.

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151 W. Erie St. 312-640-
0577.

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p.m.), \$3 per-stem
wine flights; 3339-41
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p.m.; 2100 W. Irving
Park Rd. 773-478-2100.

PIECE

\$1 off brewer's choice
Piece drafts; 1927 W.
North Ave. 773-772-
4422.

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312 pints, half-price
nachos (3 p.m.); 333 S.
Wells St. 312-566-9100.

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(4-7 p.m.), \$5 select
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Artists of the Year

Kanye West, Jay-Z, Lil Wayne and T.I. You've heard of the Rat Pack, the Brat Pack and the Frat Pack. Now it's time to meet the Rap Pack. West, Jay-Z, Lil Wayne and T.I. joined forces for "S.L.U. (Swagga Like Us)," the hottest posse cut of the year. Together and separately, the four of them had a stranglehold on hip-hop in 2008. Between them, they earned three No. 1 albums, controlled the No. 1 spot on Billboard's Hot 100 chart for 15 weeks and earned a staggering 24 Grammy nominations.

The year in music

By Adam Graham

It was a year where Lil Wayne went from being an underground icon to music's biggest star, Axl Rose finally released his long-gestating epic, and a laptop mixologist and former biochemist created the year's most engrossing album. Here is a look back at the year in music—the highs, the lows and everything in between. **THE DETROIT NEWS**



New Year's Eve SENIOR PROM

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160 E Grand Ave, Chicago IL 60611
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Best Video of the Year

Beyoncé's "Single Ladies (Put a Ring On It)": Talk about doing more with less. This minimalist, black-and-white clip creates music video gold using three black bodysuits, two backup dancers and one Beyoncé. The result? The most talked-about video of the year (and not just because of the Justin Timberlake parody clip on "SNL").



Live Act of the Year

Nine Inch Nails: Trent Reznor has always been a visionary artist, but on this year's mind-bending "Lights in the Sky" tour, technology finally caught up with his art. Incorporating state-of-the-art video screens and lights into his live presentation in a way few, if any, have ever attempted, Reznor brought his work to startling life and proved more vital than ever before, even if his ticket sales didn't quite reflect it.

Blogger of the Year

Kanye West's relentlessly updated blog (kanyeuniversecity.com/blog) found the rapper/producer/entrepreneur sharing his daily thoughts on women, architecture, furniture and fashion, while also sharing new music and ALL-CAPS diatribes against the media. If only his dour 2008 CD "808s & Heartbreak" was as interesting.

Psychic of the Year

Atlanta rapper Young Jeezy named his third album "The Recession" two months before the financial crisis hit full bore. Jeezy's other coup? He rolled the dice on

the single "My President Is Black" far before Barack Obama had the election in the bag.

Worst-Timed Single of the Year

During the height of one of the worst financial crunches in our nation's history, Akon released the mindless ode to gross wealth, "I'm So Paid." It was so egregious it qualified Akon's brain for a bailout.

Overexposed Starlet of the Year

Yes, we applaud the fact that Taylor Swift writes her own songs, but is that reason enough for her to be shoved down our throats every time we turn on the TV? This bland blonde was everywhere there was a red carpet in 2008, but showed so little personality that she made whatever Jonas Brother she was dating look like the life of the party.

Most Juvenile Joke of the Year

Britney Spears, "If U Seek Amy": All of the boys and all of the girls are begging to 'If U Seek Amy,' Britney coos on her 2008 album "Circus." Get it? If not, you're probably not in middle school.

AVA LOGAN
12:15 p.m. Free. Chicago Cultural Center, 78 E. Washington St. 312-744-6630.

BILL'S BLUES JAM
8:30 p.m. Free. Bill's Blues Bar, 1029 Davis St., Evanston. 847-424-9800.

CELTIC SEISIUNS
7 p.m. Free. The Celtic Knot Public House, 626 Church St., Evanston. 847-864-1679.

CHARLIE LOVE BLUES BAND
9 p.m. \$8. Blue Chicago at Ohio, 536 N. Clark St. 312-661-0100.

DEEP BLUE ORGAN TRIO
9 p.m. \$6. Green Mill, 4802 N. Broadway. 773-878-5552.

DENNIS FLORINE, JENNIFER HALL, KEITH HARRISON BAND, LAURA COOPER
8:30 p.m. \$7. Elbo Room, 2871 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-549-5549.

DEVIL IN A WOODPILE
9:30 p.m. Free. Hideout, 1354 W. Wabansia Ave. 773-227-4433.

DOUGLAS EWART AND THE NYAHBINGI DRUM CHOIR
8:30 p.m. Cover varies. The Velvet Lounge, 67 E. Cermak Rd. 312-791-9050.

EASTERN BLOK
9 p.m. \$7. Katerina's, 1920 W. Irving Park Rd. 773-348-7592.

EDDIE SHAW
9:30 p.m. \$10. Buddy Guy's Legends, 754 S. Wabash Ave. 312-427-0333.

ERIN McDougald JAZZ QUARTET
9 p.m. Free. The Joynt, 650 N. Dearborn St. 312-573-2233.

HENRY JOHNSON'S ORGAN EXPRESS WITH DAVID "FATHEAD" NEWMAN
8 and 10 p.m. Cover varies. Jazz Showcase, 806 S. Plymouth Ct. 312-360-0234.



Metromix's top shows

THE BLISSTERS

Rock has no age minimum.
9 p.m. \$8. Beat Kitchen, 2100 W. Belmont Ave. housecallent.com

MR. RUSSIA

Moody locals play from upcoming debut, "Teething." With Venom Lords, Avagami, American Draft, Emulsion (DJ set).
9 p.m. \$7. Empty Bottle, 1035 N. Western Ave. 773-276-3600.

BLUES TRAVELER

Party like it's 1995.
9 p.m. \$25-\$27. House of Blues, 329 N. Dearborn St. 312-923-2000.

JOE BARR, JOANNA CONNOR
9:30 p.m. \$12. Kingston Mines, 2548 N. Halsted St. 773-477-4646.

JOE POLICASTRO TRIO
9 p.m. \$8. Pops for Champagne, 601 N. State St. 312-266-7677.

JORDAN BASKIN TRIO WITH DR. ODIES WILLIAMS
9 p.m. \$10. Andy's Jazz Club, 11 E. Hubbard St. 312-642-6805.

JOSE VALDES LATIN JAZZ TRIO
6:30 p.m. Free. Green

OTT, PRETTY LIGHTS
10 p.m. \$15. Reggie's Rock Club, 2109 S. State St. 312-949-0120.

PETE GALANIS BAND WITH MARTY SAMMON
9:30 p.m. \$7. Rosa's Lounge, 3420 W. Armitage Ave. 773-342-0452.

RODNEY BROWN AND HOT ROD
9:30 p.m. \$7. B.L.U.E.S., 2519 N. Halsted St. 773-528-1012.

THE SEA AND CAKE, BABY ALRIGHT
10 p.m. \$20-\$40. Schubas, 3159 N. Southport Ave. 773-525-2508.

TRIBUTOSAURUS
7 and 10 p.m. \$20-\$30. Martyrs', 3855 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-404-9869.

UMPHREY'S McGEE
7 p.m. \$30-\$35. Auditorium Theatre, 50 E. Congress Pkwy. 312-559-1212.

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G - General audience PG - Parental guidance suggested
PG-13 - Parents strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13
R - Restricted, under 17 requires accompanying parent or adult guardian
NC-17 - No one 17 and under admitted

600 N. MICHIGAN (AMC)

600 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago
(312) 255-9340

Show times change daily.

AMC Select - The best specialty films

- Benjamin Button (PG-13) 11:40,3:20,7:00,10:40
- Bedtime Stories (PG) 11:30,2:10,5:00,7:40,10:15
- Valkyrie (PG-13) 10:40,4:30,7:30,10:30
- Marley & Me (PG) 10:30,1:15,4:15,7:15,10:20
- Seven Pounds (PG-13) 11:00,1:50,4:40,5:40,7:50,10:50
- Yes Man (PG-13) 11:50,2:40,5:20,8:00,10:45
- Earth Stood (PG-13) 12:15,3:00,8:30,11:05
- Four Chris (PG-13) 14:00,4:00,6:30,8:45
- Twilight (PG-13) 10:50,11:00
- Quantum-Sol. (PG-13) 11:15,2:20,4:50,7:20,10:00

LANDMARK CENTURY CENTRE CINEMA (LANDMARK)

2828 North Clark St., Chicago
(773) 509-4949

- The Reader (R) 12:00,3:15,6:45,9:50
- Milk (R) 13:03,5:40,7:30,9:30,10:20
- Slumdog Mill (R) 11:00,1:45,1:45,3:00,4:40,6:15,7:45,9:20,10:10
- Doubt (PG-13) 11:05,12:10,1:55,4:45,6:30,7:35,10:10
- Let the Right (R) 11:10,1:50,4:50,7:40,10:25

CITY NORTH 14 (KERASOTES)

2600 N. Western Ave.
(800) 326-3264 #1642

- The Spirit (PG-13) * 10:50,1:40,4:10,7:00,9:40
- Benjamin Button (PG-13) * 10:10,2:00,6:10,10:00
- Bedtime Stories (PG) * 9:30,11:10,12:20,15:20,5:40,2:20,7:10,5:45
- Marley & Me (PG) 9:40,12:40,3:40,6:40,7:40,9:30,10:30
- Valkyrie (PG-13) * 9:50,1:20,5:30,6:50,9:50
- Tale of Desp (G) * 10:00,11:00,12:30,1:30,3:00,4:05,5:20,6:30
- Yes Man (PG-13) * 11:20,2:15,5:00,7:45,10:20
- Seven Pounds (PG-13) * 10:20,1:20,2:20,4:30,5:10,7:30,8:10,10:00
- Earth Stood (PG-13) 11:30,2:0,4:50,7:20,10:10
- Nothing Like (PG-13) 10:50,7:40,10:20
- Four Chris (PG-13) 10:40,6:00,8:00
- Twilight (PG-13) 10:50,11:00
- Bolt (PG) 10:50,7:40
- Quantum-Sol. (PG-13) 6:20,8:50
- Madagascar 2 (PG) 9:45,12:10

DAVIS THEATRE (VALUE)

4614 N. Lincoln Ave., Chicago
(773) 784-0893

- Benjamin Button (PG-13) * 11:50,3:10,6:30,9:45
- Valkyrie (PG-13) * 12:45,5:15,7:45,10:15
- Yes Man (PG-13) * 12:45,3:00,5:20,7:40,9:50
- Slumdog Mill (R) * 12:20,2:45,5:10,7:30,10:00

FORD CITY 14 (AMC)

S. Cicero at 76th, Chicago
(773) 582-1839

Show times change daily

AMC Select - The best specialty films

- Benjamin Button (PG-13) 2:50,6:10,9:30
- The Spirit (PG-13) 1:55,4:30,6:15,7:10,9:00,9:50
- Bedtime Stories (PG) 12:10,1:30,2:30,4:10,5:10,6:45,7:45,9:20,10:00
- Valkyrie (PG-13) 1:45,4:20,7:15,9:55
- Marley & Me (PG) 2:00,4:40,7:20,9:55
- Tale of Desp (G) 1:10,3:25,5:35,7:45,9:50
- Seven Pounds (PG-13) 12:30,1:40,3:20,4:15,6:05,7:00,8:55,9:45
- Yes Man (PG-13) 12:20,2:40,4:05,5:15,7:40,9:10,10:00
- Earth Stood (PG-13) 12:00,2:20,4:45,7:20,9:40
- AMC Select Nothing Like (PG-13) 2:56,20
- AMC Select Cadillac Rec (R) 3:40,8:50
- Twilight (PG-13) 1:35,6:30

GENE SISKEL FILM CENTER

164 State Street
312-846-2800

- Monks (NR) 6:00,8:00
- Bridge on Kwai (PG) 6:30

LINCOLN VILLAGE THEATER

6341 N. McCormick at Devon Chicago
312-642-2403

Call theatre for show information

LOGAN THEATRE

2646 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago
(773) 252-0628

- Twilight (PG-13) 2:00,4:10,6:25,8:40
- Quantum-Sol. (PG-13) 2:10,4:10,6:10,8:20
- Bolt (PG) 2:10,4:15,6:25,8:30
- Madagascar 2 (PG) 2:00,4:05,6:05,8:10

MUSIC BOX

3733 N. Southport, Chicago
(773) 871-6604

- West Side Story (NR) 2:00,5:00,8:00
- Christmas Tale (NR) 2:30,5:30,8:30

PIPER'S ALLEY (AMC)

1608 N. Wells, Chicago
(312) 642-7500

Show times change daily

AMC Select - The best specialty films

- Ghajini (NR) 2:40,6:30
- Rab Ne Bana (NR) 6:00 P.M.
- AMC Select Vicky Cristina (PG-13) 4:50 P.M.
- Australia (PG-13) 1:25,7:05
- AMC Select Happy-Go-Lucky (R) 3:15 P.M.
- AMC Select Rachel Getting (R) 2:15,5:00,7:40

RIVER EAST 21 (AMC)

322 E. Illinois Street

847-765-7262

Show times change daily

- AMC Select The Reader (R) 10:25,1:25,4:25,7:25,10:35
- Benjamin Button (PG-13) * 11:00,12:45,2:30,4:20,6:10,8:00,9:50
- Bedtime Stories (PG) * 11:30,2:00,4:50,7:10,9:30
- Valkyrie (PG-13) * 10:10,1:15,2:00,3:00,4:35,5:00,6:30,7:45,9:15,10:30
- Yes Man (PG-13) * 10:10,4:20,7:10,9:00,10:00
- Seven Pounds (PG-13) * 10:15,12:30,1:20,3:30,4:15,6:20,7:30,9:20,10:20
- Frost/Nixon (R) 10:20,1:40,4:30,7:20,10,10
- Four Chris (PG-13) 11:45,2:20,4:40,6:50,9:10

CROWN VILLAGE 18 (KERASOTES)

7000 Carpenter Rd., Skokie
(800) 326-3264 #2309

- The Spirit (PG-13) * 11:40,4:30,7:10,10:00
- Benjamin Button (PG-13) * 2:20,6:05,7:00,9:40,10:30
- Bedtime Stories (PG) 12:10,1:20,2:20,4:10,6:10,8:10,9:55
- Marley & Me (PG) 1:30,4:40,6:40,9:30
- Valkyrie (PG-13) 1:20,4:10,7:15,10:15
- Tale of Desp (G) 12:40,2:10,3:20,4:40,6:20,9:00
- Yes Man (PG-13) 2:00,4:45,7:40,10:20
- Seven Pounds (PG-13) * 12:30,3:30,6:30,7:20,9:30,10:15
- Earth Stood (PG-13) 11:45,2:15,4:50,8:00,10:30
- Nothing Like (PG-13) 10:10,11:15,12:20,1:30,2:30,4:15,5:00,6:20,7:30,8:30
- Frost/Nixon (R) 12:50,1:40,4:30,6:30,7:30,9:45,10:40
- Bolt (PG) 12:20,2:40
- Madagascar 2 (PG) 1:50,4:20

WEBSTER PLACE (KERASOTES)

1471 W. Webster Ave., Chicago
(800) 326-3264 #1641

- Benjamin Button (PG-13) * 11:00,12:45,2:30,4:20,6:10,8:00,9:50
- Bedtime Stories (PG) * 11:30,2:00,4:50,7:10,9:30
- Valkyrie (PG-13) * 10:10,1:15,2:00,3:00,4:35,5:00,6:30,7:45,9:15,10:30
- Yes Man (PG-13) * 10:10,3:40,6:40,9:40,10:00
- Seven Pounds (PG-13) * 10:15,12:30,1:20,3:30,4:15,6:20,7:30,9:20,10:20
- Frost/Nixon (R) 10:20,1:40,4:30,7:20,10,10
- Four Chris (PG-13) 11:45,2:20,4:40,6:50,9:10

SHOWPLACE 14 - GALEWOOD CROSSINGS (KERASOTES)

E. Side of Central Ave., just S. of Grand Ave.
(800) 326-3264 #1646

- The Spirit (PG-13) 1:30,4:15,7:10,9:50
- Benjamin Button (PG-13) 2:20,6:05,7:00,9:40,10:30
- Bedtime Stories (PG) 12:10,2:20,4:30,5:30,6:30,7:20,8:50,9:50
- Marley & Me (PG) 1:30,4:40,6:40,9:30
- Valkyrie (PG-13) 1:20,4:10,7:15,10:15
- Tale of Desp (G) 12:40,2:20,4:40,6:40,8:40,10:40
- Yes Man (PG-13) 1:15,4:15,5:15,7:15,9:15,10:15
- Seven Pounds (PG-13) 1:10,15,2:15,4:15,5:15,7:15,9:15,10:15
- Earth Stood (PG-13) 10:10,12:50,3:30,6:00,8:50,10:40
- Nothing Like (PG-13) 1:45,4:20,6:45,9:15
- Four Chris (PG-13) 6:20,9:00
- Bolt (PG) 1:10,30,6:30,8:50
- Madagascar 2 (PG) 12:40,3:20

CICERO SHOWPLACE 14 (KERASOTES)

4779 W. Cermak
(800) 326-3264 #1644

- The Spirit (PG-13) 1:30,4:15,7:10,10:00
- Benjamin Button (PG-13) * 2:20,6:05,7:00,9:40,10:30
- Bedtime Stories (PG) 12:10,1:10,2:30,5:40,6:30,7:20,8:50,9:50
- Marley & Me (PG) 1:30,4:40,6:40,9:30
- Valkyrie (PG-13) 1:20,4:10,7:15,10:15
- Tale of Desp (G) 12:40,2:20,4:40,6:40,8:40,10:40
- Yes Man (PG-13) 2:00,4:45,7:40,10:20
- Seven Pounds (PG-13) 2:00,4:00,4:30,6:30,7:30,9:45,10:40
- Earth Stood (PG-13) 12:30,3:30,6:30,7:30,9:45,10:40
- Nothing Like (PG-13) 6:45,9:20
- Four Chris (PG-13) 5:00,7:50,10:10
- Bolt (PG) 12:20,2:40
- Madagascar 2 (PG) 1:50,4:20

OAK PARK

LAKE CINEMAS (CLASSIC)

1022 Lake Street

630-444-FILM #560

- Bedtime Stories (PG) 12:00,2:15,4:30,6:45,9:00
- Benjamin Button (PG-13) 11:45,3:05,6:30,9:50
- Seven Pounds (PG-13) 11:30,2:15,4:45,6:45,7:05,9:25
- Yes Man (PG-13) 12:05,2:25,4:45,6:45,7:05,9:25
- Earth Stood (PG-13) 12:30,3:30,6:30,7:30,9:45,10:10
- Nothing Like (PG-13) 6:45,9:20
- Four Chris (PG-13) 5:00,7:50,10:10
- Bolt (PG) 12:20,2:40
- Madagascar 2 (PG) 1:50,4:20

EVANSTON

CENTURY 12/CINEARTS 6 (CENTURY)

1715 MAPLE AVE.

(847)492-0123

- Bedtime Stories (PG) * 11:40,2:05,4:40,7:10,9:40
- Frost/Nixon (R) * 12:50,4:25,7:20,10,15
- Marley & Me (PG) * 11:30,2:10,4:50,7:30,10,15
- Benjamin Button (PG-13) * 11:25,1:15,2:30,4:00,5:45,6:35,8:30,10:10
- The Reader (R) * 12:30,4:05,7:00,9:55
- Bedtime Stories (PG) 12:45,2:00,3:30,4:45,6:10,7:20,8:40,9:45
- Marley & Me (PG) 1:00,3:40,6:40,9:20,9:50
- Valkyrie (PG-13) 1:20,4:10,7:15,10:05
- The Spirit (PG-13) 1:15,5:25,7:15,10:05
- The Wrestler (R) * 11:40,2:20,5:00,7:40,10,10:25
- Valkyrie (PG-13) * 1:35,4:25,7:15,10:05
- Doubt (PG-13) * 11:30,2:05,4:45,6:30,7:30,10,10:05
- Four Chris (PG-13) 11:50,5:15,10:30
- Milk (R) 12:00,3:30,5:10,7:10,10:20
- Quantum-Sol. (PG-13) 12:15
- Seven Pounds (PG-13) * 1:40,2:00,4:40,6:30,7:30,9:45,10:00
- Earth Stood (PG-13) 11:35,2:20,4:45,7:20,9:50
- Tale of Desp (G) * 11:45,2:15,4:35,7:00,9:25
- Yes Man (PG-13) * 1:00,2:40,3:45,6:20,7:50,8:55

Where to go for entertainment? Start here.

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pop

Cold sweat

Should you work out despite that runny nose? The experts—and studies—point to yes

New York Times News Service

You have what seems to be a really bad cold. You are coughing and sneezing, and it is hard to breathe.

Should you work out?

And if you do, should you push yourself as hard as ever or take it easy? Will exercise have no effect, or make you feel better or worse?

It is a question, surprisingly enough, that stumps many exercise physiologists and infectious disease specialists.

"That question has not been actually studied," said Dr. Aaron Glatt, a spokesman for the Infectious Diseases Society and the president of New Island Hospital in Bethpage, N.Y.

Many avid exercisers make up their own rules, and it seems that many of them, like Dr. Michael Joyner, an exercise researcher at the Mayo Clinic who is a swimmer and runner, decide to keep exercising if they possibly can.

"I can tell you that unless I am really wiped out, I still work out but maybe scale back a bit," Joyner said. "I think that would be the answer from most relatively hard-core, old-school types."

"If I have an obvious fever and muscle aches, I do very little or take a day or two off, but I really have to be in a bad way to skip more than that."

Dr. Bill Schaffner, chairman of the department of preventive medicine at Vanderbilt University and a member of the board of directors of the Infectious Diseases Society, said he was unaware of any studies that addressed the issue.

Schaffner described himself as a jogger who runs a few miles most days and goes to a gym for resistance training. And, he said, he continues his workouts when he has a cold.

Exercise, he said, makes him feel better. He speculates that perhaps it is because his blood vessels are dilated when he exercises.

"I think exercise pushes me along a route to recovery," Schaffner said. "Of course, I recognize that I might have been on a route to recovery anyway. But I can't think of a reason why exercise would affect you adversely."

That's what he said

"I put on a sweater and I wear sweatpants and two pairs of socks and a hat and I run a lot instead of lifting and I sweat a lot," college student and Logan Square resident Benjamin Mahru, 21, told RedEye in November. "I feel better later. It's like taking a really long steam shower. It takes out the toxins."

Read more about how to fight a cold at redeyechicago.com/coldtips.

It turns out that, even though they were unaware of them, the strategies of people like Schaffner and Joyner are actually supported by two little-known studies that were published a decade ago in the journal Medicine & Science in Sports & Exercise. Results from the studies, conducted by Leonard Kaminsky, an exercise physiologist at Ball State University, were so much in favor of exercise that the researchers themselves were surprised.

Now, Kaminsky said, he and others at Ball State encourage people to exercise when they have colds, at least if they have the type producing symptoms like runny noses and sneezing. He is more cautious about other types of colds that produce fevers or symptoms below the neck such as chest congestion.

Exercising with a head cold is not an issue for athletes, Kaminsky said, because most of them want to train no matter what. "If anything they tend to push too much," he said.

Kaminsky also runs a fitness program at the university, dealing with regular exercisers. When he tells them it is all right to exercise when they have a cold, many are "a little suspicious," he said. Often, they want to back off a little, lowering the intensity of their efforts.

"We tell them that's OK if it's for a short period of time," Kaminsky said. "But what you have to be cautious of, where I see it as more of an issue, is with people who are trying to build that exercise habit. They've got all these barriers anyway."

And too often taking time off because of a cold is the start of falling away from the program entirely.

Kaminsky, who runs and works out on elliptical cross trainers and does resistance training, takes the studies' findings to heart. Now when he has a cold, he continues to work out.

"It did give me the personal assurance that it was a good thing to do," he said.





What the Ball State studies found

A decade ago, a trainer at Ball State University, Thomas Weidner, wondered what he should tell athletes about exercising when they got colds. Thus researchers began a study asking two key questions, said Leonard Kaminsky, an exercise physiologist at the university.

Question No. 1: Does a cold affect your ability to exercise?

Researchers recruited 24 men and 21 women ages 18 to 29 and of varying levels of fitness who agreed to be deliberately infected with a rhinovirus, which is responsible for about a third of all colds. Another group of 10 young men and women served as controls; they were not infected.

At the start of the study, the investigators tested all of the subjects, assessing their lung functions and exercise capacity. Then a cold virus was dropped into the noses of 45 of the subjects, and all caught head colds. Two days later, when their cold symptoms were at their worst, the subjects exercised by running on treadmills at moderate and intense levels. The researchers reported that having a cold had no effect on either lung function or exercise capacity.

"I was surprised their lung function wasn't impaired," Kaminsky said. "I was surprised their overall exercise performance wasn't impaired, even though they were reporting feeling fatigued."

He said he also tested the subjects at different points in the exercise sessions, from moderate to intense effort, and found that their colds had no effect on their metabolic responses.

Question No. 2: Does exercising when you have a cold affect your symptoms and recovery time?

Once again, Kaminsky and his colleagues infected volunteers with a rhinovirus. This time, the subjects were 34 young men and women who were randomly assigned to a group that would exercise with their colds and 16 others who were assigned to rest.

The group that exercised ran on treadmills for 40 minutes every other day at moderate levels of 70 percent of their maximum heart rates.

Every 12 hours, all the subjects in the study completed questionnaires about their symptoms and physical activity. The researchers collected the subjects' used facial tissues, weighing them to assess their cold symptoms.

The investigators found no difference in symptoms between the group that exercised and the one that rested. And there was no difference in the time it took to recover from the colds. But when the exercisers assessed their symptoms, Kaminsky said, "people said they felt OK and, in some cases, they actually felt better." **NEW YORK TIMES NEWS SERVICE**

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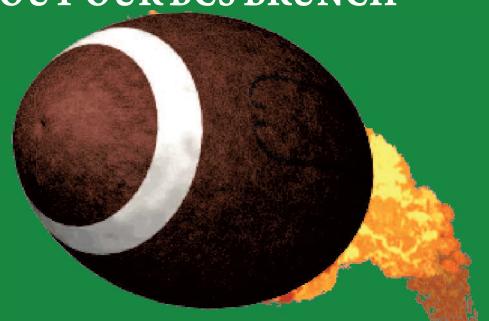
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» **"Righteous Kill,"** with Robert De Niro and Al Pacino

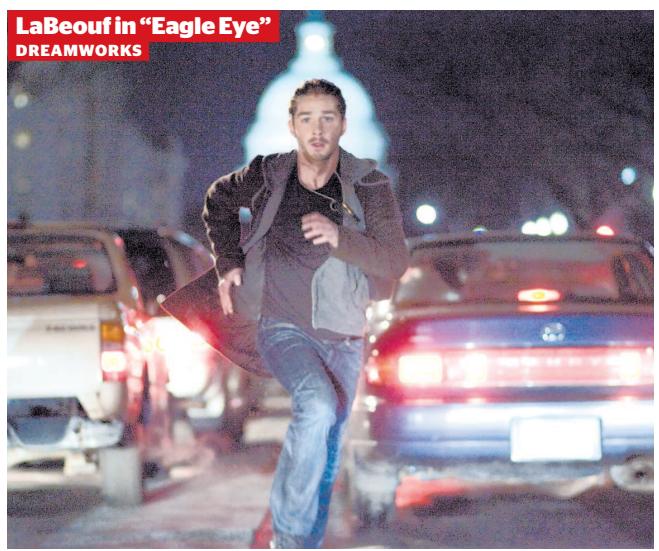
» **"Babylon A.D.,"** with Vin Diesel and Michelle Yeoh

» **"Bangkok Dangerous,"** with Nicolas Cage

» **"Disaster Movie,"** with Carmen Electra, and Matt Lanter

LaBeouf shines in 'Eagle'

LaBeouf in "Eagle Eye"
DREAMWORKS



Towelhead
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An Arab-American teen (Summer Bishil) balances racism at school, her growing curiosity about sex, and life with her strict Lebanese father in this tale that co-stars Aaron Eckhart, Toni Collette and Maria Bello.

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Eagle Eye

Single-disc DVD, \$29.99; two-disc DVD set, \$34.99; Blu-ray, \$39.99

Shia LaBeouf caps another big year with this hit action thriller about characters caught up in a Web of pervasive surveillance technology.

After co-starring in the new "Indiana Jones" blockbuster, LaBeouf hooks up with Michelle Monaghan, the two playing strangers thrown together in a ticking-clock adventure fueled by threatening phone calls from an unknown woman. Single-disc and two-disc DVD editions and the Blu-ray release have deleted scenes and a making-of segment. The Blu-ray and two-disc DVD set also come with an alternate ending and a handful of other behind-the-scenes featurettes.

An American Carol
DVD, \$26.99

A Michael Moore-type filmmaker seeking to abolish the Fourth of July gets a lesson in conservatism when he's visited by three spirits that awaken his patriotism in director David Zucker's twist on "A Christmas Carol."



The Duchess
DVD, \$29.99; Blu-ray, \$39.99

Keira Knightley plays dress-up again with her latest costume drama, starring in the 18th Century equivalent of a tabloid scandal with this story of an ancestor of Britain's Princess Diana. Knightley plays Georgiana Spencer, a society icon who struggles to juggle an affair with her true love while stuck in a marriage to the Duke of Devonshire (Ralph Fiennes).



Ghost Town
DVD, \$29.99; Blu-ray, \$39.99

After starring in "The Office" and "Extras," Ricky Gervais takes the lead on the big screen with this supernatural romance about an anti-social dentist whose near-death experience during surgery makes him a magnet for ghosts demanding favors—including a slimy guy (Greg Kinnear) who wants to prevent the remarriage of his widow (Tea Leoni).



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¹ Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2008-09 Edition

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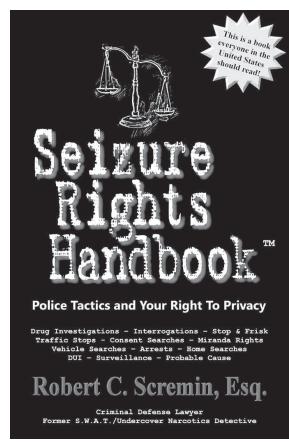
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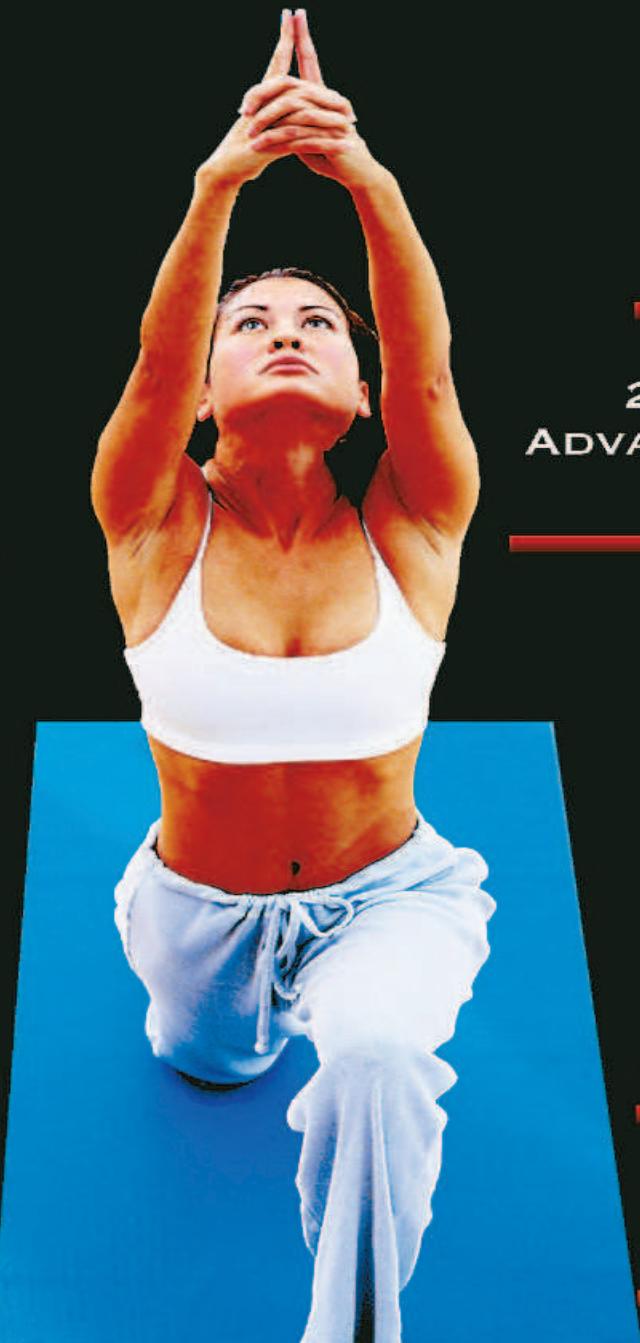
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⁵ EPA estimated MPG highway: Traverse LT 24 (FWD), 23 (AWD) vs. Pilot 23 (FWD), 22 (AWD).

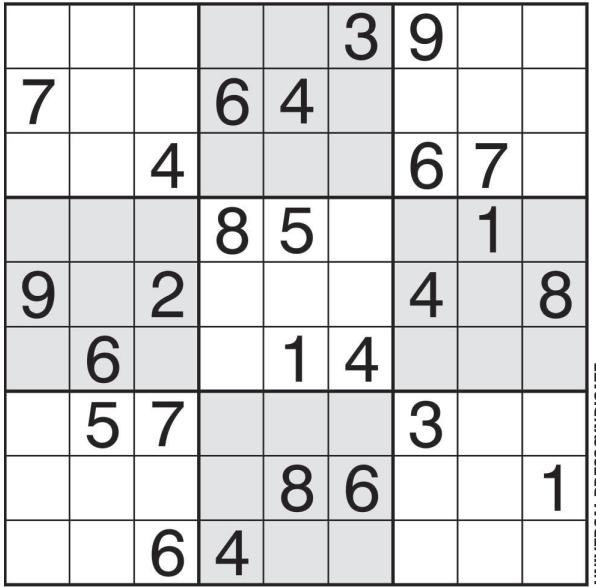
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Friendly encounters?

Are Drew Barrymore and Jason Segel an item?

Not according to Segel's rep. After the two were spotted together at a karaoke bar Saturday, the rep told Us Weekly the "How I Met Your Mother" star and Barrymore are nothing special: "They are friends, simply," the rep said.

Still, Segel and Barrymore have been spotted together more than once in recent weeks, and their latest reported outing screams free-wheeling romance—at least to the gossip set. According to Us, the two sang "Rainbow Connection," the song made famous by one Mr. Kermit the Frog. It's a decent song choice, but RedEye can think of other tunes that would better fit what could be a budding relationship.



"I Got You Babe"

Key lyric: "I got you to walk with me/ I got you to talk with me"

Why It fits: How perfect would it be if Segel crooned, "I got DREW, babe"? Oh, it'd be so perfect.



"Live Your Life"

Key lyric: "Just living my life (ay), my life (oh), my life (ay), my life (oh)."

Why It fits: At this point, that's really all we've seen Barrymore and Segel do together, although there are rumors they were caught smooching in L.A. last month. They also reportedly saw a show together. Whoopee.



"Changes"

Key lyric: "That's just the way it is. Things will never be the same."

Why It fits: Barrymore used to be linked to Justin "Mac Guy" Long. Now she's not. That's just the way it is.



"Straight Up"

Key lyric: "Straight up, now tell me do you really want to love me forever? (Oh, oh, oh)"

Why It fits: We just want to say to Barrymore and Segel, "Seriously, guys, are you dating or not?"



"Sweet Emotion"

Key lyric: "Calling my name, but I gotta make clear, I can't say baby where I'll be in a year."

Why It fits: Barrymore is a semi-professional Hollywood dater at this point. If this thing with Segel never becomes an actual thing, who knows whom she'll be linked to next?

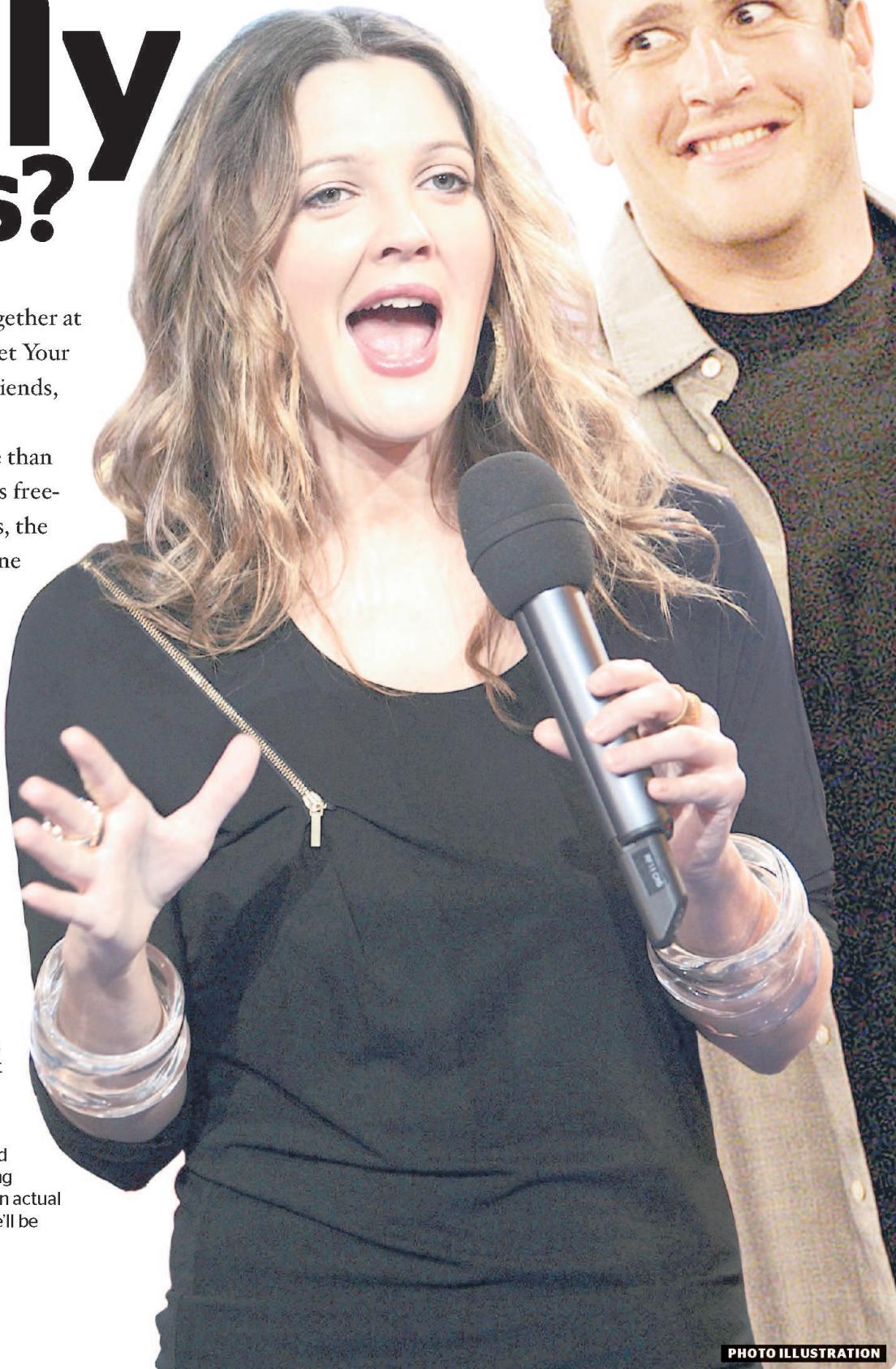


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Fake-gate, the sequel

**Winfrey**

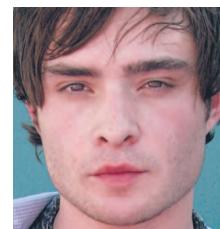
The story of how Holocaust survivor Herman Rosenblat met his future wife at a concentration camp was deemed "the greatest love story" by Oprah Winfrey on her show.

Unfortunately, it was made up. Rosenblat admitted he fabricated the tale of how Roma snuck him food through a fence for months and how they reunited on a blind date years later. Rosenblat's memoir of the events, "Angel at the Gate," has been canceled by its publisher. This is the second time Winfrey has been duped—she chose James Frey's "memoir" "A Million Little Pieces" for her Book Club in 2005.

Celebrity twin

Do you look like a celebrity? Show us! Send your picture along with the name of the celeb who shares your style to dlhernandez@tribune.com. For Tuesday, we have Kevin Fink. Think he's a ringer for Steven Spielberg? Text "spielberg" and the number of your opinion to 47383. You'll get the poll results instantly.

1. Dead on 2. Way off

**Fink****Spielberg****Westwick**

soccer club Manchester United recently in the Big Apple, but then got tongue-tied when he spotted his idol. The 21-year-old actor said he went to the bathroom, "and there was David Beckham," according to usmagazine.com. "I couldn't say anything, I just ran out," he says. "A friend tried to persuade me to say, 'Hello,' but I couldn't do it. It was ridiculous."

Cate in real life

Cate Blanchett may be one of Hollywood's biggest stars, but "The Curious Case of Benjamin Button" actress and mother of three says she is far removed from the gossip. "I don't exist in that world," she says in the February issue of *Vanity Fair*. As she nears the big 4-0, would she consider plastic surgery? "[Husband] Andrew [Upton] said he'd divorce me if I did anything."

BY THE NUMBERS

2.6 million The number of viewers the Season 4 finale of "The Hills" averaged, down from 3.8 million for the Season 3 finale, according to *The Hollywood Reporter*.

\$280 million: How much Madonna's Sticky & Sweet tour made this year worldwide, making it the highest-grossing tour ever by a solo artist, *E! News* reported.

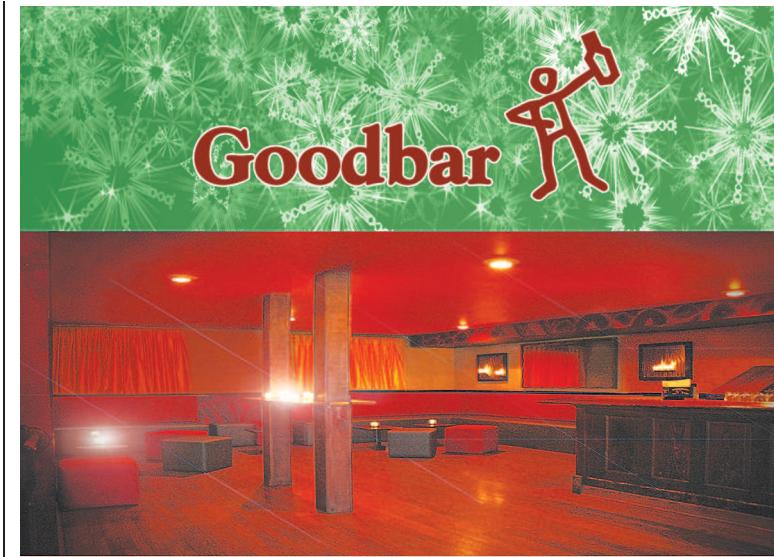
3 Chyler Leigh of "Grey's Anatomy" is pregnant with her third child, according to *People*.

320,000: The population of Iceland, where singer Bjork is looking for investors to inject capital into the economically troubled country, *Forbes* reported.

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I love you, man

"Gossip Girl's" Ed Westwick sat near David Bowie's table and shook hands with George Clooney at a party for British



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Who's got talent?

Carson Daly doesn't like "American Idol"—at least that's the impression RedEye gets.

Daly, host of NBC's "Last Call" and the former host of MTV's "TRL," had unkind words for the way "American Idol" turns unknown singers into stars.

"I think we have enough stars," the TV host and self-proclaimed music lover told reporters during a recent conference call. "I don't like rubbernecking television. I just think quality is everything, and I'd rather be patient and put my stamp on stuff that I can wake up to and be proud of."

To that end, Daly has amassed an impressive line-up for his annual New Year's Eve broadcast on NBC, including T.I., Katy Perry, Ludacris, The Ting Tings and Elton John. This year the show begins earlier (9 p.m. Wednesday), then returns at 11:30 p.m.



Daly
REDEYE PHOTO
ILLUSTRATION

Precious moments of '08

From the people who brought you the Movies of the Year list, now comes ... moments of significance?

The American Film Institute's "Moments of Significance in Film, TV and the Web" includes Danny Boyle's "Slumdog Millionaire," which the group of film buffs, scholars and critics called "a monument to

the possibilities of cross-cultural storytelling," according to E! News.

In TV, the AFI gave notice to Tina Fey for—what else?—her Sarah Palin impersonations.

As for the Internet, the video site Hulu and Joss Whedon's "Dr. Horrible's Sing-Along Blog," an online-only musical starring Neil Patrick Harris, garnered 2008 kudos.

THE VELVET ROPE



Deschanel



Gibbard

Wedding bells ring

'Tis the season ... to get engaged.

Zooey Deschanel did what co-star Jim Carrey does in "Yes Man" and reportedly said yes to Ben Gibbard, frontman for Death Cab for Cutie, when he asked her to marry him before the holidays, according to people.com, citing a source.

"America's Next Top Model" winner Eva Marcille also got engaged to Lance Gross of Tyler Perry's "House of Payne" on Christmas Eve, essence.com reports.

"I cried. It was totally unexpected. I'm still in shock. I could not even sleep because I was afraid that I might wake up from the most beautiful dream ever," she told Essence.

Hitting their peak

It's official: The Jonas Brothers—the eldest of whom just reached legal drinking age—have declared 2008 the best year of their lives.

In case you missed it, the Jonases wished their fans a Merry Christmas last week on MySpace. "You have made this the best year of our lives," the trio said. "We cannot imagine doing anything else."

Well, not for the time being, anyway.

THE DIGIT

\$40,000

The approximate amount of money the new iPhone application iFart made on Christmas Eve and Christmas this year, its developer wrote on his blog. The rip-roaring, 99-cent novelty app has been downloaded more than 100,000 times since its release on Dec. 12.



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—The New York Times

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